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A CONFERENCE of CLERGY and SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKERS will be held at LAMBETH PALACE, on TUESDAY, May 9th. The Chair will be taken at Two o'clock, p.m., by the BISHOP of BALLARAT. The Subject for Discussion will be:—"The Week-day Work of the Sunday School: Fellowship—Instruction—Recreation." A Paper will be read by the Rev. R. H. McNEILE, M.A., Hon. Canon of Liverpool. Vicar of St. Paul's, Princes's Park, Liverpool. The Rev. HARRY JONES, M.A., Prebendary of St. Paul's, Rector of St. Georges-in-the-East. the Rev H. W. DEARDEN, M.A., Vicar of St. John's, Upper Holloway, CHARLES MACKESON, Esq., and other Speakers will follow.

The ANNUAL MEETING will be held at EXETER HALL, on TUESDAY, May 9th. The chair will be taken at Half-past Six o'clock by the Right Rev. the LORD BISHOP of CARLISLE. An Address on "The Sunday School System and the Public Worship Statistics" will be given by the Venerable the Archdeacon of WARRINGTON. The Venerable the Archdeacon of DROMORE, the Hon and Rev. A. LEGGE, M.A., Hon. Canon of Rochester, Vicar of Lewisham, and Rural Dean, the Rev. H. W. WEBB-PEPLOE, M.A., Vicar of St. Paul's, Onslow Square, Sir RICHARD TEMPLE, Bart., G.C.S.I., and others are expected to take part in the Meeting.

TWO CONVERSAZIONES will be held at the INSTITUTE, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-Street, the first on WEDNESDAY Evening, May 10, to commence at Eight o'clock; and the second on THURSDAY Evening, May 11th, to commence at Seven o'clock.

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LONDON THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA,
COVENT GARDEN.

To-day (Saturday), May 6th, Gounod's opera, FAUST E MARGHERITA. Margherita, Mdme. Albani; Siebel, Mdlle. Guercia; Mefistofele, Mons. Bouhy; Valentino, Signor Cotogni; and Faust, Signor Frapolli. Conductor, Mons. Dupont.

Monday, May 8th, Donizetti's opera, LA FAVORITA. Leonora, Mdme. Trebelli; Alfonso XI., Mons. Bouhy; Baldassare, Mons. Gresse; and Fernando, Signor Lestellier (his first appearance in England). Conductor, Signor Bevignani.

Tuesday, May 9, Verdi's Opera, LA TRAVIATA. Violetta, Madame Albani; Giorgio Germont, Signor Cotogni; and Alfredo, Signor Frapolli.

Thursday, May 11th (subscription night in lieu of Tuesday, August 1st), Ambroise Thomas's opera, MIGNON. Mignon, Mdme. Albani; Filina, Mdlle. Valleria; Federico, Mdme. Trebelli; Lotario, Mons. Gailhard; and Guglielmo, Signor Lestellier.

Doors open at 8; the opera commences at 8.30. The Box-office, under the Portico of the Theatre, is open from 10.0 till 5.0. Orchestra stalls, £1 5s.; side-boxes on the first tier, £3 3s.; upper boxes, £2 12s. 6d.; balcony stalls, 15s.; pit tickets, 7s.; amphitheatre stalls, 10s. 6d. and 5s.; amphitheatre, 2s. 6d. Programmes, with full particulars, can be obtained of Mr. Edward Hall, at the Box-office, under the Portico of the Theatre, where applications for boxes and stalls are to be made; also of Principal Librarians and Musicsellers.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, Haymarket.
SEASON, 1882.
RICHARD WAGNER'S DER RING DES NIBELUNGEN, a festival play of Four Nights. Director, Mr. Angelo Neumann.
DIE WALKURE (The Walkyre).—Second Night, To-night (Saturday), May 6. To commence at 7.30, to end at 11.30.
SIEGFRIED.—Third Night, Monday Next, May 8. To commence at 7.30, to end at 11.30.
GOTTERDAMMERUNG (The Dusk of the Gods).—Fourth Night, Tuesday Next, May 9. To commence at 6.30, to end at 11.30.
Conductor, Mr. Anton Seidl.—The Orchestra of the Richard Wagner Theatre.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—This Evening, at 8, ODETTE.

ADELPHI. — This Evening, at 8, TAKEN FROM LIFE. At 7.45, MY TURN NEXT.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8.0, ROMEO AND JULIET. Romeo, Mr. Henry Irving; Juliet, Miss Ellen Terry.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—This Evening, THE LIGHTS O' LONDON. To be preceded, at 7, by A SIMPLE SWEEP.

GAIETY THEATRE, STRAND.—To-night, at 8.30, THOSE GIRLS. At 9.30, THE BOHEMIAN GIRL (Burlesque).

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, MEDUSA. At 8.30, THE SQUIRE.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, MOTHS.

ROYAL STRAND THEATRE.—Every Evening, at 8, MANOLA. Preceded, at 7.15, by PARADISE VILLA.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.50, THE MARBLE ARCH. At 8.40 THE COLONEL.

GLOBE THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8.30, FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD. Preceded at 8, by a Comedietta.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Strand.—At 7.30, ON AN ISLAND. At 8, THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL.

OPERA COMIQUE.—This Evening, at 7.50, MOTHER-IN-LAW. Followed by VULCAN (Burlesque).

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8.30, THE PARVENU. At 7.45, MY LITTLE GIRL.

ROYALTY THEATRE. — This Evening, at 9.15, SINDBAD. At 8, NOT REGISTERED. Commencing at 7.30, with TEN MINUTES FOR REFRESHMENT.

ROYAL COMEDY THEATRE.—This Evening at 8, BOCCACCIO. At 7.15, THE FAST COACH.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.45, BABIL AND BIJOU.

CRITERION THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, RUTH'S ROMANCE. At 8.45, FOURTEEN DAYS.

TOOLE'S THEATRE (late Folly).—This Evening, at 7.30, OUT AT ELBOWS. At 8.30, AUNTIE: Mr. J. L. Toole. Conclude with BARDELL V. PICKWICK.

SAVOY THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8.30, the new æsthetic opera, PATIENCE. Preceded by, at 8, MOCK TURTLES.

AVENUE THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, MADAME FAVART.

SURREY THEATRE.—THIS EVENING at 8, IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND. Preceded, at 7.30, by WE ALL HAVE OUR LITTLE FAULTS.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Bishopsgate.—This Evening, at 7.30, SUNSHINE. At 8.15, OUR BOYS.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Week ending May 13.
Monday—Orchestral Concert. Tuesday—Mr. J. L. Toole and the Toole's Theatre Company. Manager, Mr. George Loveday. Wednesday—Lecture by Mr. R. E. Crompton, on "The Crompton System of Electric Lighting. Thursday—Mr. J. L. Toole and the Toole's Theatre Company. Manager, Mr. George Loveday. Friday—Orchestral Concert. Saturday—Concert. Brixton Bicycle Club.
DAILY—International Electric Exhibition. Palace Lighted Every Evening by Various Systems of Electric Light. Band for Promenade, Every Evening from 7 till 9, under the direction of Mr. Oscar Barrett. Orchestral Concert (conductor, Mr. August Manns). Organ (Mr. A. J. Eyre). Panorama, painted by M. Phillippoteaux. Skating Rink, &c., &c.
Admission to Palace, Monday to Friday, One Shilling Saturday, Half a Crown, or by Season Ticket.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—The Palace of Amusement.—Open 12, close 11 30. Grand Attractions. Everything Free. 2.0, 3, and 8, Grand Unrivalled Variety Entertainment. A Host of Novelties. Produced on a scale of unexampled magnificence.—NOTICE.—All Extra charges are now abolished, and the price for admission to One and All Entertainments is One Shilling.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—The French Chambers resumed their sittings on Tuesday. At the meeting of the Conscription Committee M. Gambetta strongly advocated universal military service for a limited period.

M. Tirard informed the Senatorial Committee on Thursday that, in the event of the Commercial Treaties not being ratified by any of the foreign Parliaments before the 15th inst., the French Government would not ask for power to agree to a further renewal, but would apply the general tariff to the countries concerned. Holland, Portugal, and perhaps Italy, are likely to be in this position. Meanwhile, M. Gambetta's organ continues to advocate a treaty with England, based on the *status quo* as to disputed points; and the Paris clothiers have organised a meeting for Monday, to be addressed by M. Leroy Beaulieu and others, in favour of commencing fresh negotiations with England.

Oran was on Saturday startled by a report that a French topographic expedition had been put to flight on the Sahara frontier, and the convoy of provisions captured. This news was brought by men in charge of the convoy, who had fled at the first shot. Later information was to the effect that the assault had been repulsed, but with a French loss of thirty-seven killed and thirty wounded. The expedition was headed by Captain de Castries, cousin to Madame MacMahon, and a very distinguished officer. His immediate subordinates were killed. The *Journal Officiel* gives the subjoined account of the affair, but most of the papers demur to the final paragraph, on the ground that this is the most serious encounter for two years on the Sahara frontier, and that the appearance of 8,000 combatants is a fact not without gravity:—

"In a part of the south-western frontier district separating our colony from Morocco, a topographical mission, escorted by two companies of the Foreign Legion, and placed under the orders of Captain de Castries, who went to complete some surveys commenced between Ain Ben Khelil and Chott Tigri, was attacked by rebellious tribes. The enemy numbered about 1,800 horsemen and 6,000 foot. Our soldiers, of whom there were rather more than 300, fighting one against thirty, behaved themselves most gallantly; and in the furious encounter which ensued were equal to old African troops. Our losses were not insignificant — two officers killed and two wounded, forty-eight soldiers killed or missing, and twenty-six wounded. A part of the baggage was carried off, in consequence of the flight of the Arabs in charge. The losses of the assailants were very considerable. They are estimated at several hundreds of killed alone. Arab women accompanied the combatants and showed extraordinary fury. The engagement does the greatest credit to the troops engaged in it. 'Our wounded are full of pride,' says General Colonnien, narrating their arrival at Ain Ben Khelil. According to a telegram from General Saussier this isolated and accidental event need not give rise to any disquietude."

ITALY.—The *Times* correspondent at Rome says: "I am able to throw some light on the reasons why the Irish Roman Catholic Bishops acquiesced so quietly in the result of the election of Fellows to act as a Board of Examiners held by the Senate of the Royal University of Ireland on the 18th of last month, and why they refrained from carrying out their intention of calling upon Cardinal M'Cabe and Dr. Woodlock, Bishop of Ardagh, to resign their seats in the Senate in case they were unsuccessful in obtaining a majority of Fellowships for the Catholic side, and the absolute exclusion of Queen's College Professors. Had that intention been acted upon, and in such a manner as actually to compel the Rector and Vice-Rector of the Catholic University to yield to the pressure put upon them and to withdraw from the Senate of the Royal University, most of the other Catholic members would probably have followed their example. The *modus vivendi* provided by the University Act of 1879 would have been sacrificed, conciliation would have been suspended for an indefinite period, and, as predicted in your recent leader upon the subject, a renewal of agitation would have followed in Parliament. And such an agitation was hardly likely, it may be added, to further those Catholic interests which the Pope has acknowledged enjoy such exceptional liberty in England, as compared with many Catholic countries. The gravity of the impending crisis was at once recognised by the Propaganda, and although I have reason to believe that pressure in favour of the Bishops' views was brought to bear, and hesitation as to the wisdom of direct interference followed, yet, on the full significance of the case, and the facts bearing upon it, being explained to the Pope, a communication was at length despatched from Rome. This document, while stating that it was, of course, desirable that every effort should be made to bring about Catholic preponderance, enforced in sufficiently distinct terms the propriety of being content if half, instead of two-thirds, of the number of Fellows elected were Catholics, and of not insisting on the total exclusion of Queen's College Professors, satisfactory as that exclusion might be. Hence it was that the Irish Catholic Bishops refrained from pushing their demands too far, and particularly from presenting the *ultimatum* which they had determined upon."

The Pope has issued an Encyclical to the Roman Catholic Bishops in those countries where the Jews are persecuted, urging them to use all possible efforts to restrain the persecutors, and at least to take care that no Catholic is guilty of such crimes. Leo. XIII. has also written to the Emperors of Russia, Germany, and Austria in the same sense.

The nomination of the Polish Bishops has been again delayed, in consequence of Russia requiring the elimination from the forms of every mention of the kingdom of Poland.

The Pope is preparing a new Encyclical, addressed to all the European Governments, in which the manifest tendencies of the age towards theories subversive of the foundations of society are insisted upon, and an appeal is made to them to unite their efforts with his for resisting the torrent before it is too late.

GERMANY.—On Saturday Prince Orloff, the Russian Ambassador to France, visited Prince Bismarck at Friedericharuhe, by particular desire, it is stated. According to the telegrams, he was able to state that none but the Panslavists and Nihilists in Russia have any thought of war; and with respect to the outrages against the Jews that the Czar was most emphatic in condemning them. On Monday the Ambassador had an interview with the Emperor.

The Crown Princess of Würtemberg died very suddenly at half-past six o'clock on Sunday morning at the residence of Prince William, her husband, at Ludwigsberg, after being delivered of a dead child. The late Princess was the elder sister of the Duchess of Albany, as likewise of the Queen of the Netherlands, and her death has cast a gloom over the joyful celebrations held both at the English Court and at Waldeck-Pyrmont in honour of the marriage of the Duke of Albany and Princess Helen.

Wednesday was the annual Busstag, or day of fasting and prayer, for the Prussian nation; but the occasion was everywhere observed rather as a day of recreation.

AMERICA.—Two infernal machines, containing half a pound of powder each, were discovered in the Post-office mails on Saturday. One exploded prematurely in the mail bag, while in transmission from the central to the branch office, tearing a hole in the bag. It was directed to Mr. William H. Vanderbilt. The second package, identical with the first, was found to be addressed to Mr. Cyrus W. Field. A third explosive package was found on Sunday night placed in the vestibule of a house which the perpetrators of the act supposed to be occupied by the superintendent of police. They were mistaken in the number, as he lives four doors further along the street. The machine exploded, but caused only some slight damage. The general opinion is that the attempts are due to Socialists. A "parade of Socialists" was announced to be held on Sunday. The superintendent interfered and prevented the demonstration.

The House of Representatives on Saturday adopted a resolution unseating Mr. Chalmers, a white man, and a member of the Democratic party, elected for Mississippi, and conferring the seat upon Mr. Lynch, a negro and a Republican.

The following is a copy of Secretary Frelinghuysen's despatch to Colonel Wickham Hoffman, American Chargé d'Affaires at St. Petersburg, dated the 15th April, relative to the Jewish persecutions:—

Sir,—Prejudice of race and creed having in our day given way to the claims of our common humanity, the people of the United States have heard with great regret the stories of the sufferings of the Jews in Russia. It may be that the accounts in the newspapers are exaggerated, and the same may be true of some private reports which have been received. Making, however, due allowance for misrepresentations, it can scarcely be doubted that much has been done which every humane and just person must condemn. The President, of course, feels that the Government of the Emperor should not be held morally responsible for the commission of acts which it considers wrong, but which it may be powerless to prevent. If that be true of this case, it would be worse than useless for me to direct you, as the representative of the United States, to give official expression to the feeling which this treatment of the Jews calls forth in this country. Should, however, the attitude of the Russian Government be different, and should you be of opinion that a more vigorous effort might be put forth for the prevention of this great wrong, you will, if a favourable opportunity offers itself, state, with all proper deference, that the feeling of friendship which the United States entertain for Russia prompts this Government to express a hope that the Imperial Government will find means to cause the persecution of their unfortunate fellow-beings to cease. This instruction devolves a delicate duty upon you, and wide discretion is therefore given you in its execution. However much this Republic may disapprove of the conduct of affairs in other nationalities, it does not conceive it is its right or province officiously and offensively to intermeddle. If, however, it should come to your knowledge that any citizens of the United States are made the victims of persecution you will feel it your duty to omit no effort to protect them, and report such cases to this department.

FREDERICK T. FRELINGHUYSEN.

The House has concurred in the Senate's amendments to the Chinese Exclusion Bill, and has sent it on to the President.

Six steamers landed 6,000 emigrants at Castle Garden on Tuesday; among them being 50 English brewers from Preston, who, having sufficient capital, intend to start a brewery of English ale in Philadelphia; 500 Dutch cattle-raisers and their families, destined for Texas, with capital averaging 800dols. each, and 1,000 Italians, chiefly labourers.

SOUTH AFRICA.—The Zulu deputation, numbering fully 1,000 persons, has returned to Zululand, after eight days' sojourn near Maritzburg. It appears that they had followed the Resident into the colony, without waiting for the decision which he was to obtain from the Governor regarding their reception. Their action being unauthorised and defiant and calculated to bring the authority of the Government into contempt, Governor Bulwer declined to receive them. Bishop Colenso repudiates any sort of connection with this movement, the origin of which is attributed to sinister intrigues of serious significance.

Very conflicting accounts are published regarding the new goldfields in Eastern Transvaal. The question of illicit diamond-buying continues to cause great excitement at Kimberley, where the thefts are estimated at two millions sterling per annum. The health of the troops is greatly improved. More reports have been received of disturbances on the west of the Transvaal. Mankorane, conferring with the Commissioner of Griqualand West, is stated to have offered his submission to him.

The adoption by the Cape Upper Chamber of a resolution in favour of abandoning Basutoland to the Imperial Government, being in conflict with the vote of the Lower House, may lead to a change of Ministry or to a dissolution. The resolution was to the effect that, as present relations with Basutoland were humiliating and unsatisfactory, they should be repealed, and the Imperial Government communicated with, in order that steps might be taken to relieve the colony from all further responsibility. It was carried by 14 votes to 6.

John Dunn is now in Maritzburg, conferring with Governor Bulwer. It is said that the bulk of the Zulu warriors, having married, desire the continuance of peace; but that Cetewayo's restoration would certainly lead to the revival of the military system, and to a return of the evil times of terror and intrigue.

The rains have at length fallen, after a long drought.

There has been no more fighting on the western Transvaal border; but Maukorane is reported to have taken refuge in Barkly, after being nearly captured by the Boers.

IRELAND UNDER MR. GLADSTONE.

A daring attempt to murder was made on Tuesday near Clara. A man named Delahunty, while seated at his fireside, was fired at through the window with a revolver. Three shots were fired, and one of the bullets passed close to Delahunty's head. The outrage is believed to be agrarian.

A house occupied by Emergency men, on the Murroe property of Lord Cloncurry, has been attacked by a party of men. The Emergency men turned out and fired upon their assailants, who decamped. Traces of blood were afterwards observed.

Information has been received from Cashel to the effect that on Monday night about nine o'clock two shots were fired into the house of a provision dealer named Keeffe, at Lagginstown, near New Inn. Keeffe was suspected of supplying provisions to workmen in the employment of Mr. Francis Massey, J.P., who has been Boycotted for some time for giving land to the Government to erect a constabulary hut upon. There are six men at work at the hut.

The magisterial inquiry at Ballina into the Belmullet affray was brought to a conclusion on Tuesday. The case against Constable Sullivan for killing Ellen M'Donogh and Mary Dean, at Grawhill, on October 27, was taken. After evidence had been heard on both sides, Colonel Forbes, the presiding magistrate, announced that sufficient evidence had been given to convince him that the police received great provocation, and that Sub-Inspector Stritch was justified in the course he had taken. He therefore considered it his duty to refuse the information in both cases.

So many acts of enmity and ingratitude towards their landlords are recorded against Irish tenants that it is pleasant to report a set-off. On Saturday, Lady Alice Fitzgerald, daughter of the Duke of Leinster, was presented by her father's tenants with a massive silver épergne as a wedding-gift.

An extraordinary scene was witnessed on Saturday at Adare. On the sub-sheriff, Mr. F. Hobson, attempting to make a seizure for non-payment of rent, a crowd of women collected and obstructed him, and when the sheriff's bailiff tried to force a passage he was beaten back. A bull-dog was then set at the bailiff. A man named Cumming drew his revolver and shot the animal, and threatened to do the same to the people if they did not keep back. The threat succeeded in preventing any further violence. A riot occurred on Saturday at Frankford, King's County. A number of persons, who were reported to have paid their rents, were attacked and beaten in a fearful manner. The police succeeded in arresting thirty men. The public-houses were closed by order of the resident magistrate, and the streets were cleared at the point of the bayonet. The house of a bailiff named Thompson, living at Oola, county Limerick, was attacked on Friday night by a party of men, who fired three shots and posted threatening notices on the door. A large rick of hay, the property of a bailiff named Hayes, residing near Kilmorna, in the same county, has been destroyed by incendiaries. A daring raid for arms is reported from Kerry. The house of Samuel Morgan, steward of Mr. Mahony, of Dromore, was entered in broad daylight by a party of disguised men during the absence of the family at church, and two guns were carried away. Three men named Sullivan, Shea, and Lavenay have been arrested.

On Thursday, Lord Cowper received, at Dublin Castle, a farewell address from the Corporation, in which they stated that they had performed the ceremony in accordance with precedent. Replying, Lord Cowper regretted that coercive measures had been necessary, and added—"If we were to blame, is was because we did not employ them earlier." Lord Cowper stated further—"The coercive measures were accompanied by others intended to be remedial; and, although the benefit to be derived from them has not yet been made manifest, I feel confident that they will ultimately bear fruit." In conclusion he said:—"It is difficult not to speak of myself and of my resignation of the Lord-Lieutenancy. I have long suffered from the circumstances in which I have been placed. I am convinced that in a time of trouble and difficulty like that of the past two years, the position of Viceroy, with his Chief Secretary in the Cabinet, and virtually entrusted with the Government of the country, is a thoroughly false one. I do not disguise that I am glad to escape from it. But I am quite sure that nobody who knows me will for a moment think that I would have deserted my post in circumstances like the present as long as I had been assured that it was for the advantage of the country that I should remain. My successor is a very old and valued friend of miue. I have great confidence in his abilities, and he has certain advantages in coming here which are not usually possessed by a Lord-Lieutenant. I sincerely hope that his administration may be successful." At three o'lock Lord and Lady Cowper drove through the crowded streets lined with troops to the railway station, whence they were taken by special train to Kingstown, and embarked in a special steamer, which started at once for England.

Mr. M'Gloin, a landlord and merchant, living at Aclare, some seven miles from Swineford, co. Mayo, was proceeding, at about eight o'clock on Thursday morning, to the usual fortnightly Petty Sessions, held on Thursdays at Foxford, for the purpose of prosecuting some tenants whom he had evicted, but who had taken forcible possession. He was driving a side car, and when about half-way, at a place called Killasser, he saw a man coming over the wall by the roadside. Mr. M'Gloin observed that his movements were suspicious, and he at once got his repeating rifle—which he is in the habit of carrying—in readiness. He was not a moment too soon, as the man came up and deliberately aimed a revolver at his breast. Owing to some mistake the revolver missed fire, and the would-be assassin turned and fled. Mr. M'Gloin fired one shot from the car, but missed the man, who by this time had taken to the fields. Mr. M'Gloin then jumped off the car, knelt on the road, and fired. This time he hit the man, who fell. Mr. M'Gloin left him in the field and proceeded to Foxford, where he gave information to the police, who went to the field and found the body. Mr. M'Gloin, who has lived all his life in the district, stated that the man is a total stranger to him. A revolver was found clutched closely in the hand of the dead man, who was named Patrick Jennings, and was a retired soldier. Another man, lately returned from America, was arrested on suspicion of having conspired to murder Mr. M'Gloin. Important papers were found on the dead man's person, which it is supposed led to the arrest.

Two farmers, named Dominick and Michael Dignam, of Rathallen, were waylaid on Wednesday night at Ling Bridge and brutally beaten, because they had sent cattle to graze on a Boycotted farm, the property of Mrs. Fry, of Navarino, near Boyle. The life of one of the Dignams is despaired of. Neither of them can identify their assailants, who were strangers.

Three heifers belonging to a farmer named Whelan, the cousin of a man of the same name who was murdered some months since near New Pallas, were wilfully poisoned on Wednesday by some persons unknown. Whelan is bailiff to Colonel Hare, on whose estate a number of seizures for rent were some time ago made by the sheriff.

ENGLAND AND EGYPT.

A well-informed correspondent, one of great experience in Egyptian affairs, writing to the *St. James's Gazette* on Wednesday, makes the following observations:—

"The *Times*, in a leading article yesterday, advocates the sending of a Turkish Commissioner to Cairo, accompanied by an English and a French military Commissioner, for the purpose of reorganising and limiting the Egyptian army, and appears to consider that such a step would tend to a solution of the Egyptian difficulties! The article goes on to say that 'to many it will appear a weak proceeding to send a Commissioner to contend with a military insurrection that has till now been successful. To many more it will appear improbable that a body composed of Turkish, English, and French elements will work harmoniously in Egypt. There is but one answer to be returned to all such objections, and that is, One can but try.' This is the language of a paper that was not very long ago regarded, universally and justly, as the first newspaper in the world. It is in this farcical and flippant manner that a question of the gravest moment to this country is treated by our 'leading journal.'

"Having placed Tewfik Pasha on the throne, and left him to contend alone against overwhelming rascality and difficulties, we are now to help him by sending him a Turkish Commissioner of high rank! 'We can but try;' and if that course fails, we 'can easily begin again;' and so on. And the world will stand still while we are trying and beginning again with the *Times'* quack medicines.

"One can only hope that those who have read this article will also have read the letter of Dr. Butler, published in the same paper. I will venture to say that no man who has had experience in Egypt will hesitate to endorse every line of that admirable letter; and few of the many who have had no practical experience will fail to see how completely it exposes the mischievous folly of those hoodwinked gentlemen, Sir William Gregory and Mr. Wilfred Blunt, who have upheld a blustering braggart and his confederates as the patriotic representatives of a national party in Egypt. Time will show; time has shown; and therefore I will not waste time in demonstrating to those who are not sufficiently intelligent to see it already the impudent imposture of Arabi Bey and his faction. All I am concerned in is this, that under the Anglo-French control Egypt made a great step in advance, in spite of the intrigues of the innumerable mongrel native seekers of place, and of the numerous petty officials of 'great' and small Powers; and that if that control had been firmly maintained by the two Governments concerned, the interests of Egypt (which I put intentionally first) and of England and France would have been secured. But the control, for reasons into which I am not concerned to enter, has broken down. The result of the break-down has been the confusion in Egypt and the diplomatic difficulties in Europe. The knot cannot be untied by 'trying' and 'beginning again.' It is for our Government, if they have the nerve, to cut it. Let us, in Dr. Butler's words, break off at once this 'sham partnership with France.' If we are not utterly cowed and crushed by Mr. Parnell and his friends, and have still a little leisure to look after our Imperial interests, then, I say, let us cut this knot. Let us support the Prince we have placed on the Throne as Khedive. If upheld and protected against outside interference, he would serve the best interests of Egypt. We could support him and guard our own great interest at no greater cost than such a protection as we exercised over the Ionian Islands. Moreover, Egypt could, under such circumstances (assured good government), well afford to bear a portion of the cost of the protectorate.

"If we are prepared virtually to say to all comers 'Come on,' not one will come, and we shall have no more trouble than we had in Cyprus. Egypt is the victim of consular officialism even more than of its own official class, and there is little more than paper after all at the back of those ambitious, mischievous officials."

EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette*.—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in Packets labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London."—Also makers of Epps's Chocolate Essence for afternoon use.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Monday.

THE STATUTES OF OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITIES.

The Earl of Carnarvon rose to call attention to the provision made for religious teaching and worship in the statutes laid on the table of the House by the Oxford and Cambridge Universities Commissioners. The noble Earl said they were within two days of the time when it would be necessary for their Lordships to express assent to or dissent from the statutes which lay on the table of the House, and, therefore, now or never, the House should express its opinion on the subject. Those statutes, taken in combination with the Acts constituting the powers of the Commissioners, effected a material change in the studies, discipline, worship, and religious instruction of the Universities. In his observations he should confine himself entirely to the University of Oxford. In former years the system of religious instruction and worship in chapel was a clearly defined system. Different Acts of Parliament had been passed, and had greatly modified that system. First, there was the great University reform of 1854. Since that time various provisions had been made by the Legislature, the most important of which was the Act of 1871, by which tests were abolished in the Universities. Finally, there was the Act of 1877, upon which the present Commission was appointed. In all those Acts there were very distinct provisions for promoting the designs of the founders and benefactors of colleges in our Universities: and the Acts required that the Universities should be mainly what they were in former days—places of religion and learning. In the preamble of the original Act, to which he had referred, it was laid down that the object in view was to promote the main designs of founders and donors. The Act of 1871 in its preamble defined the Universities as places of learning and religion. In the enacting part it was said that nothing was to interfere with the system of worship and discipline, according to the Established Church. Lastly, provision was made for the performance of religious service in the college chapels. The Act of 1877 reaffirmed all those principles even more strongly. Clause 14 referred to the designs of founders and donors; clause 15 declared that the Commissioners should have regard to the interests of religion; clause 59 reaffirmed the clause in the original Act of 1871, to which he had called attention. In addition to that, distinct assurances had been given to quiet all alarm on the subject. He called attention to these facts because, partly by direct legislation, partly in consequence of the powers given to the governing bodies, all those promises had practically come to nought; and no such safeguards were provided for religious teaching and discipline as had been promised. He next came to the statutes themselves, as framed by the University Commission. There was a good deal of difference in the statutes as regarded the different colleges. Those statutes contained provisions—first, regarding clerical headships; secondly, regarding clerical Fellowships; and, thirdly, regarding college chapel. The question of clerical headships he regarded as an important one, and now more important than ever. But the case of clerical Fellowships was even more important, because in the Fellows rested the whole teaching and influencing power in the Universities. He would take the case of Christ Church. In the old days there were 101 students, of whom 97 were in Orders. Under the new statutes there were only to be three students in Orders. Brasenose had formerly six Fellows in Orders; now the number was limited to one. Then there were the college chapels. In old days the chapels might be described as the parish churches of the undergraduates. They had now ceased to have any such character, and attendance at chapel was now optional. He would observe also that, under the old system, all the members of colleges belonged to the Church of England. What were now the governing bodies of the colleges? They were composed partly of resident and partly of non-resident members of the Universities. These latter have little knowledge of the actual state of the colleges; and there was no reason whatever why the members of those governing bodies should profess any religion at all. Yet those bodies appointed college chaplains, whom they appointed and dismissed at pleasure. Further, they had full power to regulate the services in any fashion they pleased; they could provide how the Communion was to be administered and arrange any detail of the services. Whatever religious discipline there might be lay with that body to enforce or not. They had even the very remarkable power of altering, varying, or abridging the services as they pleased. The result was that the power of regulating the whole religious teaching and discipline of the University had been placed in the hands of men professing no religious belief whatever, even in the existence of a Supreme Being. There was thus nothing whatever left of the original purposes of the founders. In many of the colleges there had been a complete revolution in religious feeling. The old learning and religion had been absolutely divorced, and the old relations between culture and Christianity had been severed. He should not overstate matters when he said that numbers of young men in recent years had returned from the University with their faith sapped in consequence of their connection with their colleges. He believed that the proposed legislation proceeded from an undue desire to lower the powers of the Established Church. It might be said that this was not the case and that the powers of the Church would remain untouched—that the chapel service was, in fact, but a mere *rencontre*, and that the old system had nothing effectual in it to secure faith in religion. In certain cases he believed that was true; but there was this great difference between the two cases. In former days they had all the machinery for religious life, whereas it seemed to be the intention now to sweep that machinery entirely away. The leading objections that he had to the statutes were, first, that the responsibility on the part of the authorities of the college in religious teaching would cease to exist; secondly, that the machinery had been swept away; thirdly, that the teaching would be taken out of the hands of the governing bodies; and, fourthly, that it would be placed where no clerical Fellow could be got to undertake the instruction, in the hands of a clergyman to be appointed for that purpose. This clergyman, who was to be the supreme head in these matters, was in many cases a man receiving an utterly inadequate stipend, and his position would be quite a feeble one against the great forces arrayed against him. The position of such a clergyman would be very similar to that of a chaplain in the houses of the rich in the 17th century. It was not his intention to move to omit these objectionable clauses from the statutes, but he hoped that a way out of the difficulty would be found. He believed that the Universities needed rest after the long period of Parliamentary agitation through which they had passed, and he would not therefore be a party to throwing them back into that state of agitation. He accepted those statutes simply because he bowed to superior force; but he protested against them, and he distinctly wished it to be understood that he was no consenting party to legislation which he believed to be both dangerous and wrong. (Hear, hear.)

The Archbishop of Canterbury said that their Lordships would no doubt allow him to say a few words on that subject, especially when they knew that he rose to give notice, on behalf of the Right Rev. Prelate the Bishop of Lincoln, that he would on Friday of next week move the rejection of the statutes for Lincoln College. He thanked the noble Earl for the speech which he had just delivered. He did not think, however, that the effect of the statutes would be to sweep away entirely religious teaching, because, inadequate as the arrangements were, they still furnished some means by which the religious life of the University could be maintained. As regarded Lincoln College, however, he thought that there was nothing to be done but to reject the statutes in the hope that a better scheme might be prepared and adopted. There was one point to which he would venture to call attention, which was connected with the legal aspect of the whole matter. But he would pronounce no opinion, because, of course, he was not in a position to decide so difficult a question. It had been said that the Commissioners, in making these statutes, had exceeded the powers which had been conferred upon them by Parliament. That contention, whether right or wrong, involved this further proposition, that no power to remove disabilities or tests was conferred by the Act of 1877, and that in such matters the Commissioners were referred back to the Test Act of 1871. It was further contended that in the Act of 1877 there was a distinct clause that the Test Act of 1871 should be binding upon the Commissioners appointed in 1877. When the Test Act of 1871 was referred back to, certain provisions were found in it which appeared to apply in the first instance merely to a single clause, but on examination that clause turned out to be the really governing clause of the whole Act, and was the only one which conferred upon the Commissioners the power of doing away with these these tests. That clause was as follows:—"Nothing in this section"—*i.e.*, the governing section of the Act—"shall render a layman or a person not a member of the Church of England eligible to any office or capable of exercising any right in any of the said colleges, which office or right under the authority of any Act of Parliament, or of any statute or ordinance of such college, in force at the time of the passing of this Act, is restricted to persons in Holy Orders, or shall remove any obligation to enter into Holy Orders, which is by such authority attached to any such office." Rightly or wrongly, it was contended that there was nothing in the subsequent Act for repealing that restriction, and that, therefore, the Commissioners, by this wholesale abolition of union of clerical offices with the Fellowships, had gone beyond the provisions of the Act, and special attention was drawn to the repeated admonitions which were contained in both Acts, that regard should be paid to the maintenance of religious instruction and of chapel services in the colleges. For his own part, he should be very glad if this matter were cleared up, because it had left a very unpleasant impression on the minds of those who took an interest in it. He could not himself see in the Act of 1877 any distinct power given for superseding the Act of 1871; on the contrary, it appeared to him that the Act of 1871 was re-enacted and strengthened by certain clauses of the former Act. But, however that might be, there still remained the objection to some of these statutes, especially that by which the Commissioners were called upon to use their best endeavours to maintain religious instruction and religious services in the colleges. What was contended was that the peculiarly unfortunate mode selected of securing the continuance of those services and of giving that instruction would lead to utter and entire failure, and that the hiring of two persons, at a salary of £100 a year, removable at pleasure, and who would not have the power of speaking with authority to the undergraduates, would end in making the whole religious service ridiculous and impracticable. (Hear, hear.)

The Earl of Camperdown hoped that the prophecy of evil which had been uttered with regard to this subject would not be realised. He thought that it was unfortunate that the noble Earl, in introducing this subject, had not pointed out in detail how it was that the spirit and letter of the Act of 1871 had not been carried into effect. In his opinion, the provisions of the Act of 1871 had been thoroughly carried out by the great majority of the colleges of Oxford University. Ample care had been taken that provision should be made for the performance of religious service in college chapels. The noble Earl had asked the colleges to revert to the old exploded practice of appointing to Fellowships only those persons who were in Holy Orders, but such a retrograde step was impracticable in these days. The noble Earl had complained that no provision had been made that the chaplains should be members of the colleges, but there the noble Earl was again in error, inasmuch as in the statutes of a large number of the colleges it was provided that one or more of the Fellows must be in Holy Orders and in others that the chaplain should be a Fellow if possible. The abridgement of the service of which complaint had been made was to be done by the governing bodies, with the assent of the visitor in almost every case. Such was, at all events, the case at Cambridge. [The Earl of Carnarvon said he particularly limited his observations to Oxford.] And, after all, who, he would ask, was more fit to undertake the government of the colleges than the governing bodies? No other mode of government was possible unless they chose to accept some clerical influence from outside. For his own part he did not think it so absolutely essential that the chaplain should be a Fellow of his college. Undergraduates appreciated clearly the distinction between those Fellows who attained to their position by open competition and those who came in by some other door, and it was a mistake to suppose that a clerical Fellow obtained by virtue of his position any additional influence in the college. He thought it would be undesirable on the evidence before them to assume that the colleges had failed to comply with the statutes of 1871.

The Lord Chancellor, who was very indistinctly heard, was understood to say that religious instruction was properly provided for in the Acts affecting the colleges, but that in colleges where there were a number of clerical Fellowships it was left to the Commissioners either to retain these or not, as they might think expedient. That circumstance prevented several colleges from going to the full extent of requiring that there should always be one or two Fellows in Holy Orders charged with the duty of religious instruction. At New College, for instance, there continued to be for a time a certain number of clerical Fellows; but there being also in the statutes the power of making an alteration, the college ultimately obtained the consent of its visitor to do away with the requirement as to clerical Fellowships altogether, and since that time nothing had occurred to show that such a course was ill-judged. Passing to the observations of the noble Earl with respect to the abolition of clerical headships of colleges, he pointed out that at Pembroke, at least, this was not the case, a canonry being attached to the headship of that college. There might be differences of opinion as to whether it was desirable to remove those restrictions, but there could be no question that this was done in accordance with the unanimous opinion of the University itself. In every case the two Commissioners who were appointed from each college to assist in the consideration of the question reported the unanimous opinion of their own society against possessing the clerical qualification for the headship. Under those circumstances it could not be a matter of surprise to their Lordships that the Commissioners yielded to the universal desire of the colleges themselves and acceded to their request. With regard to the other points it was invariably provided for the purpose of religious instruction and for the maintenance of the chapel services that there should be at least one clerical fellow. At Christ Church there were three and at Magdalen two such clerical fellows. When he had ceased to be one of the Commissioners his place was filled by a most liberal-minded man, the late Dean of Westminster, who approved of the action of his predecessors. The noble Lord was in error in supposing that this statute gave the governing body powers to abridge the chapel services. That power was conferred by the Acts of 1871 and 1874, which enabled the governing bodies to abridge the morning and evening prayer on any day except Sunday with the consent of the visitor. But the real question was whether the maintenance of those clerical restrictions tended to the real diffusion of religious principles in the Universities. Under the old system gentlemen who had obtained clerical Fellowships remained long in the University, often without taking part in the work of education, and ultimately accepted college livings. Since that state of affairs had been changed appointments to college livings had been made on more satisfactory principles. At the same time he would point out that there was nothing in the Act to prevent colleges electing as many clerical Fellows as they pleased or to prevent gentlemen elected to Fellowships from taking Holy Orders if they pleased. He did not think in any case that the statute would prevent the majority of young men in college from remaining subject to very much the same influence as they had always been. But he pointed out that the change which had taken place, in the opinions of the members of the University, if it had taken place at all, was the product of a period during which the clerical influences had been chiefly at work.

The Bishop of Winchester pointed out the great difference in regard to the religious instruction of a college between having that instruction provided for by the governing body, and only having it provided for by a chaplain appointed from without. At Cambridge they had had a certain number of such chaplains in some of the colleges, and he could say from his own experience that those chaplains exercised no sort or kind of influence over the young men of the college; whereas the clerical Fellows and clerical heads of the colleges often exercised a very great influence. He entirely agreed with the noble Earl who had spoken first that it would not be desirable to try to oppose the passing of those statutes, because if those statutes were thrown out it was possible, considering how rapidly opinion in regard to theology was running in the present direction, they might be left in even a worse position than they were now. It should, however, be remembered that many of the colleges were founded in old times for the special purpose of giving religious instruction. Out of the five colleges at Oxford, of which he was Visitor, four were founded for that special purpose, and some of them by eminent predecessors of his own. He did not say that religious instruction would not be given after the passing of those statutes, but the only provision for it was that there was to be one Fellow who might be a clergyman, or there might be a college chaplain appointed from without. Although he was inclined to acquiesce in the recommendations of the Commissioners, with the exception of the case of Lincoln College, he could not but fear that their tendency must be to impair the influence of theological teaching. It was said that the Fellows of colleges took Holy Orders often merely to obtain Fellowships. That might be so in some instances, but he said that a body of clerical Fellows was almost without exception a body of well-conducted men; and he feared that they would not have the same restraining influences in a body of lay Fellows.

The Marquis of Salisbury said he did not desire now to express any opinion with respect to the matter under discussion, because it seemed to him they would have a more convenient opportunity of discussing the question more fully when the motion, of which notice had been given by the most rev. prelate, was before the House. With respect to the general operations of those statutes, he had only to express his general concurrence and sympathy with his noble friend behind him. There was, however, one point which he could not pass over, and it was for that reason that he ventured to trouble their lordships with a very few words. He could not help thinking that the provision by which, in the case of most of the colleges, a clerical Fellow was to be appointed, in order to provide for religious instruction, was not a valueless or an unimportant provision. On the contrary, he regarded it as one of the very highest importance. He earnestly regretted that the Commissioners did not see their way to give them more in the same direction. (Hear, hear.) But still the fact that they were, for whatever reason, unable to come to that decision, ought not to blind their Lordships as to the great importance of having among the governing body of the college a man whose duty it was to represent the religious instruction, which it was the duty of the college to give, and such a man, selected as he would be, must exercise a valuable influence over those committed to his charge. It was the importance he attached to that provision which had induced him for one to abstain from bringing any of those statutes under the consideration of their Lordships. If their Lordships had been asked to vote against the statutes in which that provision existed, and if they had acceded to that suggestion, the result would have been that those statutes would simply have been swept away; and the old statutes in a more or less mutilated condition would have been revived to take their place. The consequence of that would have been to throw the whole legislation of the Universities into the crucible again. (Hear, hear.) With regard to the appointment of clerical Fellowships, there had been for many years past a very strong and growing feeling against the arrangement which had existed up to the present time—namely, the arrangement that had been reported on by the Commissioners in 1854. He believed that opinion was strong; and that it was so was evidenced by one circumstance that he would mention. In the Act of 1877 a power of dealing with clerical Fellowships was not included, but when the matter came to be discussed in the House of Commons it was found that the pressure of feeling was so strong that it became necessary to consent to a modification of the Bill. In his opinion it was in vain to expect that the present House of Commons would consent to more favourable terms than the present. He would not discuss the peculiar provisions that had been inserted into the statutes; but speaking of the statutes generally, though he sympathised with his noble friend behind him, he thought it very doubtful whether any interference would result in the statutes being rendered more advantageous to religious teaching and worship than they were at present. (Hear, hear.)

The subject then dropped.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday.

Lord Salisbury asked if Lord Cowper had resigned the Lord-Lieutenancy of Ireland, and whether Lord Spencer had been appointed to the office in conjunction with his present position as President of the Council, and what steps were being taken for the pacification of Ireland. Lord Granville replied that it was perfectly true that Lord Cowper had resigned; but his resignation was not founded on any policy of the Government. Mr. Forster had also resigned. Lord Spencer had been appointed to succeed Lord Cowper, and would not resign his position as President of the Council; the Lord Privy Seal performing the duties for the present. The reason of sending Lord Spencer was the critical state in which Ireland now was, which required that the person who succeeded to the Lord-Lieutenancy should be clothed with the greatest knowledge; and this he could only maintain by having a seat in the Cabinet. The Government had no fresh policy. They did not regard the Protection of Life and Property Act as a failure; but it was not at present their intention to ask Parliament to renew it. They were, however, considering a measure for strengthening the means of the administration of justice and protecting property and life. They had also come to the conclusion that the time had arrived when it was no longer desirable to keep three members of Parliament in prison; and they had decided to examine into other cases. The Land Act would require revision with regard to arrears and to the Bright clauses.

Lord Carnarvon asked if the Government would state the reasons for Mr. Forster's resignation; but Lord Granville declined to do so.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Tuesday.

At the morning sitting Mr. Lewis moved the issue of a new writ for Wigan in the room of Mr. F. S. Powell, whose election had been declared void. He contended that the Government were acting illegally and unjustly in practically disfranchising this constituency. Sir Henry James said that he would not charge Mr. Lewis with being actuated by party motives in bringing forward this motion, and regretted that it should be suggested that the Government had taken the course they had pursued in this matter for the purpose of getting rid of one vote. All they could do now was to take the best course open to them, In 1869 Mr. Gathorne Hardy suggested that a general rule should be laid down that, whenever the judges reported that corrupt practices had extensively prevailed, a Commission should thereupon issue; and that rule was accepted by both sides of the House. It had been followed ever since without deviation, except on the occasion of the unfortunate vote arrived at by the House last August, when it refused to sanction the issue of a Commission for Wigan. The judges had reported that a deplorable state of things prevailed in that borough, and he therefore thought the writ ought to be suspended some time longer—at least until the end of the present session. Baron de Ferrieres proposed an amendment to the effect that no writ ought to be issued to fill up any vacancy occasioned by corrupt practices until the House had disposed of the Corrupt Practices (Disfranchisement) Bill. A long discussion ensued, and eventually the motion was negatived by 220 against 142, and the amendment was withdrawn.

IRISH AFFAIRS.

Mr. Gladstone, rising amidst many indications of excitement in a full House, referred to the fact that a statement on Irish affairs was to have been deferred to the evening sitting; but in view of question, which he understood were to be asked in the other House, he would now ask permission to lay certain information before the House. On this occasion he should make no allusion to the Land Act or the question of arrears or the purchase clauses; but would confine himself to the resignation of the Viceroy, the course to be taken with reference to the suspects, and the possibility of further legislation with regard to Ireland. As the House was aware, Lord Cowper had resigned his office, though not on account of disapproval of the Government policy; and it was desired that the administration of Ireland

should now be conducted on the full responsibility of a member of the Cabinet. Directions had been sent to Ireland for the release forthwith of the three members of that House who had been in prison since October last under the powers of the Coercion Act. The list of persons similarly imprisoned would be carefully examined, with the view to the release of other persons who were not believed to be associated with the commission of crime. These measures had been taken by the Government on their own undivided responsibility, and in pursuance of the principles on which their policy had heretofore been founded. The release of the suspects had been ordered without any negotiation, promise, or engagement whatsoever. This act had entailed the lamentable cost of the resignation of the Chief Secretary, who declined to share their responsibility. The late Chief Secretary, who was not now present, could not offer an explanation without obtaining the sanction of Her Majesty, but hoped to be able to make a personal explanation not later than Thursday. With regard to legislation, the Government did not at present contemplate asking Parliament to renew the Coercion Act, unless its re-enactment should be required in relation to secret societies; but they were engaged in preparing a Bill to strengthen the ordinary law and to meet such difficulties as had been experienced in defending the administration of justice and protecting private rights in Ireland. This measure would be pressed forward as soon as the necessary business of the House had been disposed of, including the resolutions on procedure and money business. In view of this new Irish legislation, the measures mentioned in the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the session must be laid aside. The Government did not hold that the Coercion Act had failed, for it had served the most important purpose of enabling them to confront a great crisis.

Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE remarked that such a statement as had been made on behalf of the Government might well have arrested the breathless attention of the House, and commented on the gravity of the situation disclosed by the admission that the Chief Secretary declined to share the responsibility of his late colleagues in the new policy they had adopted. It would be premature to come to a decision until Mr. Forster's explanation had been heard; but in the meantime they might ask whether the charges of treasonable practices which had been made against some of the suspects now about to be released were to be passed over with indifference? He compared the policy of the Government to the movement of a pendulum, and said he could conceive of nothing more likely to weaken their authority. No doubt it was very clever to use the condition of Ireland as a leverage for hastening on the procedure resolutions; but if it were really meant that the new policy could not be carried out until these resolutions were disposed of, the prospect became very serious indeed. Sir Stafford Northcote asked various questions of the Government; among others, whether the charge of treasonable practices against Mr. Parnell was to be withdrawn; whether the resignation of Lord Cowper or Mr. Forster came first; and whether both the Viceroy and the Irish Secretary were to be in the Cabinet. Mr. M'CARTHY thought it impossible to express any opinion until the measures of the Government were before the House; but he wished to know whether a successor had been appointed to Mr. Forster (over whose fall the Irish party had no wish to exult), was the mechanism of the Irish Administration to be reorganised, and would Michael Davitt be released? Mr. GLADSTONE, replying, said that the resignation of Lord Cowper came first, but the two had no connection with each other. No successor to Mr. Forster had yet been appointed. Davitt's case had not been considered in connection with this subject, and as to the reorganisation of the Irish Administration, though it could not be done at a stroke, the Government was fully alive to the importance of it.

Mr. CHAPLIN, who moved the adjournment of the House in order that the discussion might be continued, made some sarcastic comments on the triumph of the Land League and the surrender of the Government, and, contrasting Mr. Gladstone's language now with the terms in which he had announced Mr. Parnell's arrest at the Guildhall, declared, amid loud cheers from the Opposition side, that the policy of to-day was the most conclusive condemnation of the policy of October last. Mr. SEXTON thought it was impossible that the Government could be expected to be more explicit on the present occasion as to their policy; but he hailed the release of the "suspects" as the first step towards the restoration of law and order. Lord Percy, Sir Henry Wolff, Mr. Newdegate, and Mr. J. Lowther made some remarks; and Mr. GLADSTONE, in reply, warmly denied that there had been any new departure or any ignominious surrender, and challenged the Opposition leaders, if that were their opinion, to embody it in a motion. Mr. PLUNKET replied that the Government, with their majority at their back, would, of course, have no difficulty in making good this solemn challenge, but they would have more difficulty in explaining their own inconsistency to the country; and he denounced in language of passionate indignation the slur and the discouragement to the magistracy and constabulary which he held to be involved in Mr. Gladstone's reply to Mr. M'Carthy in reference to the reorganisation of the Irish Administration. Mr. MACARTNEY said the announcement of the Government would be received with dissatisfaction and alarm by all the loyal population of Ireland; but Mr. DICKSON thought, on the contrary, that it would do more to restore peace and order than all the constabulary.

Mr. GOSCHEN thought that until Mr. Forster had had an opportunity of making a statement of the reasons which induced him—who of all other Ministers must know the condition of Ireland most intimately—to refuse to concur in the release of the "suspects," it would be unwise of the House to attempt to debate the question. The judgment on that measure must depend on the arguments adduced in its favour; but to some members, at least, it would be necessary to be proved that the release of social revolutionists would enable the Government to cope more effectually with a social revolution. Whatever might be its result in Ireland, it could not conduce to the fortunes of the empire unless all parts of the empire were convinced that it was not a concession to fear; and the Liberal party could not exist if it were supposed not to be strong enough for the repression of disorder. If there were in Ireland revolution, agitation, and disorder, it would be the duty of any party, Liberal or Conservative, again to introduce a policy of coercion. The Liberal party could not exist if the idea was to be fostered that it was not powerful enough and not strong enough for the suppression of disorder and for grappling with these disturbances, and that it was only by retreating, and by concession after concession, that they could govern. In what he had said he was not animated by the slightest disregard for the Government. It was not his motive to attack them, and if he had spoken with feeling it was because they were in the middle of an important crisis when they must not mince their words. His friends around him would not, he trusted, mince theirs, when afforded an opportunity of stating at the proper time their opinions upon events which must have most grave and important consequences. Mr. CHARLES RUSSELL, on the other hand, hailed the announcement of the Prime Minister as the commencement of a new era, and was confident that, if carried out in the spirit in which he had spoken, it would lead to the restoration of peace and contentment. Mr. GIBSON reproached the Prime Minister with his omission to say a single word to encourage the magistrates and constabulary in the discharge of their difficult duties; to which Lord HARTINGTON replied that there was no need for any such encouragement, as nobody had denied that this was the first obligation on a Government; and Mr. Gladstone had absolutely announced that a measure was to be introduced to strengthen the hands of the authorities. He repeated the Prime Minister's challenge to the Opposition, with the remark that they ought not to be deterred from accepting it because of the probable loss of their Irish allies. Sir JOHN HAY, in reply to a question, said he should not go on with his motion at nine o'clock; and, after some observations from Mr. ARNOLD, the motion to adjourn the House was withdrawn, and the sitting came to an end.

The evening sitting was largely occupied with a discussion upon a motion brought forward, and afterwards withdrawn, by Mr. HUSSEY VIVIAN, condemning the statutes proposed by the University of Oxford Commissioners for Jesus College. Leave was given to Mr. RICHARDSON to bring in a Bill to renew and amend the Sunday Closing (Ireland) Act. The Metropolis Management and Building Acts Amendment Bill was considered in Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

SCHOOL BOARDS (SCOTLAND) BILL.

The House was engaged during the earlier hours of the sitting in a discussion on the above Bill, in which most of the Scotch members took part. The object is to protect schoolmasters in Scotland against summary dismissal, by giving them an appeal to the Department. The second reading was moved by Sir H. MAXWELL, and supported by Mr. Orr Ewing, Mr. J. A. Campbell, Mr. Cochran-Patrick, Mr. Dalrymple, and Lord C. Campbell, mainly on the ground that schoolmasters are now too much at the mercy of the School Boards composed of persons of inferior education, whose primary object was to keep down the rates. The opposition to the Bill was led by Mr. ANDERSON and Mr. BAXTER, who urged that the Bill would degrade the School Boards and put the schoolmasters above the governing bodies. Mr. Duff, Sir E. Colebrooke, Mr. Ramsay, Dr. Webster, the Lord Advocate, and other members spoke, and Mr. MUNDELLA, on behalf of the Education Department, deprecated an appeal which he thought would lead to discord; but he admitted that there ought to be some provision to prevent dismissals without notice. Ultimately the Bill was withdrawn.

CHURCH PATRONAGE BILL.

Mr. STANHOPE, in moving the second reading of this Bill, said that he could not claim any originality in the matter, as it dealt with a question which had been entirely fought out. It had been considered by a Committee of the House of Lords and by a Royal Commission, and so far, therefore, as inquiry outside the House was concerned, he could safely say that it was altogether exhausted, and that the time had come when some further steps should be taken. The evils that existed in the system of patronage in the Church of England had been clearly proved, and the time had arrived when action should be taken. The Church, at any rate, was anxious to diminish these evils, almost all the clergy, and the great majority of laymen being in favour of the Bill, The measure had been submitted to nearly every Diocesan Conference in England, as well as the Central Council, containing representatives from the various conferences, and all alike had expressed approval of it. Moreover, a very large number of gentlemen belonging so the various Dissenting bodies in the country had expressed cordial approval of the principle of the Bill. His proposals were not to be construed as containing any attack, either upon private patronage or upon lay patronage, both of which were, in his opinion, of the greatest value in their ecclesiastical system. So far from wishing to destroy the system of private and lay patronage, he should desire to see it extended, though in an improved form, under the provisions of this Bill. The first evil in the present system which the Committee dealt with was the secrecy with which these transactions were conducted; many of the other evils could not exist to anything like the present extent if publicity could be secured. One object of the Bill was, therefore, to secure publicity by providing that a register should be kept by the Bishop of the diocese, so that everything connected with advowsons should be known. Then there was a provision by which, before any clergyman could be instituted to a parish, notice was to be given to the parishioners, who, if they pleased, might lay before the Bishop certain definite grounds of objection to his appointment. Those grounds must consist of physical, mental, or moral incapacity for the duties of his office, and if the Bishop should consider them proved he was given the power to refuse to institute to the benefice. It might be said that the power to refuse to induct existed at the present time, but the power was of so vague and theoretical a character that the Bishops hardly ever acted upon it. It was the object of the Bill to make this power clear and unmistakable. The second cause of the evils connected with patronage was the sale of the office of minister of a parish—in other words, of the next presentation. If a living were full the next presentation could be sold, but if vacant it was illegal to sell it. A sale was legal only the day before the occupant of the benefice died, but if it were wrong to sell the living the day after his death it was wrong to sell it the day before. In consequence of no moral guilt attaching to the parties, and also of the uncertainty of the law, it was evaded all over the country. In some cases the contract was made when the church was full, but the payment of the purchase-money was deferred until the avoidance took place. In other cases the purchase-money was paid at the time of the contract, but the vendor paid interest on it until the avoidance. In both cases the sale was practically completed when the living was empty, and the law was evaded. A clerical agent wrote:—

"In a case which came to my knowledge a patron had two livings and presented a relative to one of them. The second living subsequently became vacant, and was offered to and accepted by the relative, in lieu of the one he held. At the instance, however, of the patron, he retained legal possession of the first living until the patron had effected the sale of the next presentation, and then resigned it. It is obvious that this transaction was, in effect, the sale of a void presentation, and the price paid was regulated accordingly. The transaction was, however, perfectly legal, and was carried out with the full knowledge of the Bishop of the diocese."

The object of the law was perfectly clear: it was to prevent the sale of his office by the minister of the parish; but the law had failed in its effect, and the result had been frequent scandal and great dissatisfaction. The object of the present Bill was to prevent these abuses. A Bill for this purpose passed this House ten years ago, went up to the House of Lords, and received the approval of a Royal Commission. Since that time public opinion had ripened. There was a difference in principle between the sale of an advowson and the sale of a next presentation. From the evidence upon which the report of the Royal Commission was founded it was perfectly clear that the evils of the sale of an advowson were not to be compared with the evils of the sale of a next presentation. The scandal arising from the one case was incomparably greater than that arising from the other. The Bishop of Exeter said:—"It is permissible to sell the office of patron, but wrong to sell the office of parochial clergyman. The office of patron is treated as property; property under the obligation to discharge very solemn duties, but still property to be dealt with and protected, like all other property." Then the Royal Commissioners said in their report:—

"There is a difference in principle between the sale of the advowson, which is the parting entirely with his trust and its accompanying advantages to the patron, and the sale of the next presentation, which is the allowing of another, for a pecuniary consideration, to discharge a duty which, so long as that trust is vested in the patron, it devolves upon him to perform."

And Sir Robert Phillimore said:—"The sale of next presentations, in my judgment, opens the door to simony in a way that the sale of advowsons does not, and your Lordships are perfectly well acquainted with the fact that it leads to a very great scandal in the mode in which the next presentations are put up to auction;" and he went on to say, "The real scandal arises from the auction and sale of the next presentation." He did not put forward his clause for the abolition of the sale of next presentations by any means as a perfect clause; it was a very difficult clause to draw. He had introduced into the Bill a clause prohibiting the resale of an advowson until five years had elapsed from the last sale. He was quite prepared to consent to proper clauses being introduced in committee, and he appealed to the House to pass this measure and so apply an effective remedy without delay. Then, as to the question of donatives, it had been considered very closely by the Lords' Committee and the Royal Commission. The Lords' Committee reported as follows:—

"The attention of the Committee has been especially called to the evils arising from the present state of the law relating to donatives. The patron of a donative is not required to present his clerk to the Bishop for institution, nor is the clerk required, as all other beneficed clergymen are, to resign to the Bishop, but to his patron; while, on the other hand, the acceptance of a donative *ipso facto* vacates any preferment which the donee may have previously held. Abundant evidence has been adduced to show that the exceptional privileges attaching to donatives have been made use of to facilitate simoniacal and corrupt trafficking in perferment."

The manner in which the operation was conducted so as to evade the law as to donatives was stated in the evidence before the Lords' Committee. One witness stated:—

"A clergyman called upon me one day a few years ago and requested me to carry out the sale of an advowson; he was an old family client; he was the patron and incumbent of the living; he knew perfectly well that his Bishop objected to accept a resignation in cases where the patron was also the incumbent and had made a sale; and he told me that he had arranged with a particular clerical agent, who kept two or three of those donatives in his pocket, to purchase one of those donatives for £100. He was then, having sold his own living, to appoint himself to this donative; and then, when the living thereby became vacated and the purchaser was presented to the living that was sold, he was to sell back the donative to the clerical agent for the same price that he gave for it."

There were very few donatives in existence; not more than sixty or eighty; and possibly many of them were being used for purposes quite unobjectionable; but it was necessary to take steps to prevent the possibility of any of them being used for corrupt purposes. This Bill proposed that donatives should come within the jurisdiction of the Bishops, and the patron of a donative would only suffer when he intended to make an improper use of it. The existing law of simony was frequently embarrassing to a clergyman's conscience when he had made his declaration on the subject, for nobody knew quite accurately what the law as to simony really was. The law was misleading and ambiguous. He therefore proposed to substitute a declaration that certain things had not been done, these being specified in a schedule and including cases in which simony undoubtedly existed. Those were the provisions of his Bill. He was fully aware of the difficulty of the case, and that the provisions of the Bill would require careful consideration, and many amendments might, no doubt, be suggested. There was a Bill before the House by the hon. member for Huddersfield by which he made certain other proposals on the subject. If any amendments could be suggested to the present Bill, arising either from the provisions of that other Bill or from any other quarter, he should be very glad to entertain them. Therefore, if the House should be in favour of reading this Bill a second time, he should not object to its being referred to a Select Committee, as he wished the Bill to be made as perfect as possible. The Bill was his contribution towards putting the law of Church patronage on a proper footing; and he fully believed that it would have the effect of remedying the evils that existed and of imparting greater strength and vigour to the Church of England. (Hear, hear.) The hon. member concluded by moving the second reading of the Bill.

Mr. ILLINGWORTH rose to move the amendment of which he had given notice—namely, that this House, while prepared to abolish all traffic in sacred offices in the National Church, objected to a measures which gave fresh sanction to the sale of advowsons, and would fail to put an end to the scandals of the existing system of patronage. The Church journals had hinted that he was actuated by unworthy motives in opposing the hon. member's Bill last year. Moreover, the Bishop of Oxford did not hesitate to use untruthful language—(murmurs)—and to make most ungenerous and unchristian insinuations respecting his conduct. It might be, of course, that the Right Rev. Prelate was misinformed, but it was no light matter for a dignitary of the Church of England and a member of the other branch of the Legislature to bring charges and throw out insinuations against a member of that House without previously making himself acquainted with the actual facts. He ventured to assert that the real welfare of the Established Church had had no more implacable enemies than those who now or formerly sat on the Episcopal bench. It was his hon. friend the member for Huddersfield who first roused Churchmen to a sense of the danger which the system of patronage was causing to the Church. He would tell the House what had been the experience of the last few years with regard to attempted legislation on this subject. In 1874 a Committee was appointed by the House of Lords to inquire into the question of the sale and exchange of livings. The proposals of that Committee were, as might have been expected from the character of its nomination, of the mildest possible kind; for whatever the other House failed to represent, it no doubt thoroughly represented property and vested interests. In the recommendations of that Committee there was no proposal to deal with either next presentations or the sale of advowsons. All they proposed was to confer some new powers on the Bishops, in order to enable them to deal with corrupt presentations. A Right Rev. Prelate prepared a Bill, based on the recommendations of that Committee. It passed through the House of Lords in 1875, but no progress was made with it in the House of Commons. The Conservative party were in power at the time, but they made no attempt to deal with the question of Church patronage. It was true that a Royal Commission was appointed to investigate the subject, but the composition of the Commission was such that its report could not be considered exhaustive or national in its character. The hon. member would, no doubt, tell them that his proposal was based on the recommendations of the Royal Commission. He failed, however, to see in the present measure any reference to sales of livings by public auction, which were considered to be a scandal to the Church of England as by law established. When they were told that they ought to be satisfied with the report of the Commission, he would ask how many curates were examined and how many aggrieved parishioners? There were in all only twenty-three witnesses; two were members of the Commission; one was secretary to five or six Bishops; and in the main the witnesses were clergymen of the Church of England. If the Commission had wanted to know the strength of national feeling on this question they might have got nearer the truth by calling, say, the President of the Wesleyan Conference. But the Church was treated as an *imperium in imperio*, and those outside it were kept at arm's length in regard to the management of its affairs. The time, however, was approaching when this would be no longer possible if the House of Commons was to be responsible for the government of the Church. Why was it that the House of Lords, with its ample leisure, had not again ventured upon legislation? If it had, we should have learnt how far it was now prepared to go in the way of Church reform. In 1874 the recommendations of the Lords' Committee and the Bill of the Bishop of Peterborough were of the most meagre and timid character; but the Royal Commission went a great deal further; and, as public opinion was evidently on the move, if a little time were given it would be possible to carry a measure more worthy of Parliament than that now before it. Out of doors, the public did not recognise the distinction drawn by the hon. member between the selling by retail of the next presentation, and the selling by wholesale of the advowson; and he repelled with warmth the insinuation that the reform of the greater evil would do any injury to the Church. It would continue to stink in the nostrils of the people—("oh, oh")—to quote the words of the Bishop of Peterborough—until it was entirely free from the suspicion of the sale of its offices. Of the 7,000 advowsons, one-seventh were always on sale, and it was very probable that the pressure of the times and the pending changes in the land laws would increase the number in the market. All that this Bill did was to prevent resale within five years. It was well known that a curate had little chance of promotion without wealth and favour, and if his father had a few thousands and proposed to buy a next presentation, and this Bill would say to him that he should not do that unless he had a few thousands more and could buy the advowson too, and though he could not resell the remaining interest for five years, there was nothing to prevent him raising money upon it. At a meeting of the Deanery of Eccles, Manchester, the clergy were found to be equally divided about this Bill, and in any general meeting of 2,000 or 3,000 persons, when all the facts were stated, the Bill would not receive the support of one in a hundred. Those who looked forward to a radical reform of the Church of England, did so in no spirit of hostility to the Church. It could not be said that Dissenters had

many grievances left; but they had a profound conviction that there was no effectual cure for the abuses and anomalies connected with the Church, except disestablishment and disendowment. Many Churchmen themselves acknowledged that to be the case. It could not be denied that great abuses and anomalies existed in the Church, and it was unreasonable to expect that a democratic House of Commons should spend its time in a mere attempt to reform and recast an ecclesiastical system of government. In the United States, where religion was free, more had been done during the past fifty years in the cause of Christianity than had been done in this country with its Church establishment and its high-placed ecclesiastic dignitaries. He begged to move an amendment:—"That this House, being prepared to abolish all traffic in sacred offices in the National Church, objects to a measure which gives fresh sanction to the sale of advowsons, and which would fail to put an end to the various scandals of the existing system of patronage."

Mr. RAIKES remarked that this Bill ought to be considered apart from the larger question of disestablishment, with which it had no necessary or immediate connection. As an outcome of the great religious activity which had sprung up within recent years, the Bill was, no doubt, to be regarded with satisfaction; but, from the practical point of view, he did not think it was likely to be satisfactory in its working. He much preferred the Bill of the hon. member for Huddersfield (Mr. Leatham), which unsparingly condemned the transfer of Church patronage for pecuniary considerations—an abuse at which the present Bill only nibbled. At the same time, he felt bound to acknowledge that the present system had its good side. Admitting all the evils which had been so conspicuous in connection with it, he still ventured to think that they were more than counterbalanced by the advantages resulting from the wealthy mercantile classes associating themselves as patrons with the Church system. Many persons would undoubtedly decline to allow their sons to enter the Church unless they could assure them a position of comfort. He thought the Bill already contained a clause which satisfactorily dealt with the question of the next presentation to livings. At any rate, power could be given to the Bishop to put his veto upon any sale which he thought improper. He did not approve of the provision given to any two parishioners the opportunity of stating anything they knew against the moral character of the clergyman before his appointment. In case the meeting differed and the gentleman was ultimately elected, say, by three votes against two, the clergyman would have by no means an easy task to do in satisfying the two dissentients. He had spoken his opinion somewhat freely in criticising the Bill, because he did not think the question could be settled by a half-hearted measure like the present. If they were to have a settlement at all, he trusted that the Bill on going to a Select Committee would be accompanied by a more drastic measure, thoroughly dealing with the whole matter. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. LEATHAM considered it useless to attempt to amend matters as they stood without going to the root of the evil. The whole system of public sales of a great and solemn trust was repugnant to all notions of what was right and just. Even, therefore, if the Bill remedied a portion of the scandals arising from the system, the grave scandal of the system itself would remain. He, therefore, considered the present Bill ineffectual.

Mr. HIBBERT intimated that the Government had no objection to the Bill being read a second time.

Mr. RICHARD thought that no sufficient opportunity for discussing the Bill had been obtained, and upon his motion the debate was adjourned till Thursday.

The Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Act (1874) Amendment Bill was read a second time.

The House adjourned at ten minutes to six o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

Lord DALHOUSIE brought in a Bill to amend the law relating to marriage with a deceased wife's sister, and Lord ROSEBERY a Bill to reform municipal corporations. Some conversation then took place on the pamphlet of Professor Bloxham, late Professor of Chemistry at the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich. Lord MORLEY expressed the opinion that the pamphlet had been written under feelings of great irritation, and the Duke of CAMBRIDGE defended the board at the Academy from the learned professor's charges. Lord LONGFORD next presented a petition from landowners and others, praying that the principles adopted by the Land Commissioners in the assessment of fair rents might be made public as soon as possible. The prayer of the petition was supported by Lord SALISBURY, and Lord CARLINGFORD replying, said that the Act of Parliament did not impose any obligation of the kind referred to, and he doubted whether they would make the communication asked for. The Duke of Richmond and Gordon urged that landlords ought to know what were considered as improvements by the Commissioners. Lord GRANVILLE supported the views of Lord Carlingford, and his Lordship, in reply to Lord Salisbury, having stated that Lord Frederick Cavendish was the new Chief Secretary for Ireland, and that the noble Lord would not retain his office as Secretary to the Treasury, the House adjourned at 6.35.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The Irish crisis may be said to have reached its climax in the Commons, when to an overcrowded House important Ministerial statements were made, and Mr. FORSTER explained the causes of his resignation, the House afterwards engaging in one of the most formidable discussions which the session, or even the present Parliament, has witnessed. When hon. members met for prayers, Messrs. Dillon and O'Kelly were present, the former looking pale and careworn, and the latter fresh and vigorous, as though he had just returned from a prolonged holiday tour. Mr. Forster, too, was in the House, taking a seat next to the gangway, on the bench immediately behind that which Her Majesty's Ministers occupy. He watched with keen but quiet interest the preliminaries of the sitting, many of which had relation to the office he had just quitted. First there was an intimation from Mr. W. H. SMITH that he would not to-day proceed with his motion in the direction of assisting tenants to become proprietors. He took this course chiefly to avoid multiplying the embarrassments of the crisis, and in view of the fresh legislation that the Government contemplated. His intimation was followed by a motion from Lord KENSINGTON for a new writ for the northern division of the West Riding of Yorkshire, in the room of Lord Frederick Cavendish, who had accepted the Chief Secretaryship. The motion, received with "cheers" and laughter from many Conservative and Parnellite benches, was at once agreed to, but the sentiments of the House in the appointment were further manifested when Mr. CHAMBERLAIN rose to reply to a question put by Mr. SUMMERS, and met with ironical cheers from the Conservative and Irish benches. Next replying to Mr. COWEN, the HOME SECRETARY stated that the same reasons which had induced the Government to release the suspects had induced them to release Mr. Davitt. This announcement was the signal for a prolonged outburst of cheering from the Parnellites, and expressions of disapprobation from the Conservative benches. Replying to Mr. GIBSON, Sir WM. HARCOURT added that the conditions under which the release was made were the same as those under which Davitt was released by the late Administration. Mr. COWEN then gave notice of a question as to whether Davitt would be granted a free pardon; and, replying to Sir H. D. WOLFF, the PREMIER said that it had been intimated to him that the "No-rent" manifesto had been withdrawn. At once Messrs. DILLON, O'KELLY, and SEXTON rose to challenge the Premier to say that he had received any communication from them. The PREMIER replied that none of them were specially mentioned, but they were all included. Again, however, hon. members rose, this time to assert that they had authorised no such intimation.

It was shortly after this exhibition of Irish sensitiveness that Mr. Forster made his personal statement. He was met with cheers from the Conservative benches, a cry of "Buckshot" from the Home Rulers, and silence from his own party. He had scarcely begun his speech when Mr. Parnell, bearded like a pard and looking the reverse of well, entered the House, being greeted with a not very hearty cheer from his party. Mr. Forster proceeded with his statement under the evident influence of painful emotions, and his low tone of voice and quiet demeanour greatly contrasted with the vigour and boldness with which he was wont to defend the conduct of the Executive from his accustomed place on the Treasury Bench. In an oratorical sense, however, his speech was not less, but rather more effective than usual. Forcible and terse in its statements, and logical in argument, it was, in fact, a powerful indictment against the Government, notwithstanding the scrupulous care that the right hon. gentleman took to make it clear to the House that his differences were of a political and not of a personal character. He reminded the House of the condition of Ireland when the Coercion Act was introduced, and when Mr. Parnell was described by his friends as "the uncrowned King of Ireland." He then referred to the condition of the country now, and asserted that there were only three things that to his mind would have justified the release of political suspects—the first being an undertaking on the part of the agitators to refrain from defiance of the law and from instigating intimidation; the second, the restoration of quiet in the country; and the third, the passing of a further Act to yet more strengthen the law. None of these conditions, however, have been fulfilled, and under these circumstances he had been compelled to disagree with his colleagues. The right hon. gentleman concluded with a kindly reference to his associations with the Premier, and Mr. Gladstone then claimed the privilige of making a statement on the part of the Government. He generally defended the course that had been adopted, pointing out that the imprisonment of the leaders of the agitation was bound to end at some time, and asserting that there was good ground for believing that the present time was opportune. He again repeated that the Government had information which led them to the belief that the released suspects would range themselves on the side of law and order and individual freedom, but he expressed the opinion that Mr. Forster went too far when he demanded that they should have first had a public undertaking from the hon. members.

The PREMIER having concluded, Mr. PARNELL exhibited a lively desire that there should be no misunderstanding as to the statements that had been made as to the attitude the agitators would assume in case they were released. He denied that he had been a party to any negotiations, but supposed that the Government had heard from his friends that he thought a settlement of the arrears question would take away the excuse for outrages such as had so unhappily increased during the last six months, and had heard also that he thought if this were done they would be able to take steps that would have an effect in diminishing the present unhappy state of things. Next, Mr. DILLON, speaking for himself, denied that he held any communication with the Government, and intimated that he reserved to himself the utmost freedom as to the future. Mr. O'KELLY also made a similar statement, and asserted that the charge of treasonable practices on which he had been arrested was wholly unjustifiable.

It now devolved on Her Majesty's Opposition to offer their free and independent comments on the extraordinary proceedings that had just transpired. With this object Sir S. NORTHCOTE moved the adjournment of the House, demanding that after the serious statements of Mr. Forster fuller explanations on the part of the Government should be given, and deprecating, with the loudly expressed approval of his followers, the intention to postpone the attempt at further Irish legislation until the procedure rules were disposed of. Sir H. D. WOLFF followed with severe comments on the way in which the Government aileged that they had acted on information in releasing the suspects, intimating, amidst considerable laughter, that Captain O'Shea, who had hastily visited Mr. Parnell in Kilmainham on Sunday, had performed a kindred service for the Government to that of Mr. Errington in going to Rome. Mr. BRODRICK and Sir W. BARTELLOT next condemned the course adopted by the Government, which was then defended by Sir W. HARCOURT, but afterwards severely criticised by Mr. ONSLOW, who accused Her Majesty's Ministers of deserting their colleague, Mr. Forster, at a time of difficulty because he was not prepared to truckle to the Land Leaguers. Mr. O'CONNOR POWER then warned the Government that the experiment of governing Ireland with English brains and English understandings would always prove a failure, and that there never would be absolute peace till Home Rule was conceded. Mr. Mitchell Henry, Mr. Balfour, Mr. Cartwright, and Mr. Chaplin continued the discussion, the latter maintaining that the Premier had now become the tool of the party he had so long denounced, and the plaything and puppet of the Land League. The Government was then privileged with the compliments of Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Givan, after which, in a speech of lofty and powerful declamation, Mr. Gibson denounced the want of amplitude and detail in the statement of the Premier as regarded the new measures to be proposed for Ireland. He insisted that those measures should be introduced at once, and condemned the continued dallying with a criminal agitation which was sucking the life blood of the Irish nation. Lord HARTINGTON then replied on the discussion, and after observations from Mr. Gorst, Mr. Newdegate, Mr. Heneage, and Mr. Richardson, the motion to adjourn was withdrawn, the sitting terminating at a quarter past two.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

Cabinet Councils were held on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

Mr. FORSTER, who took a place on Thursday evening on the second bench above the gangway behind the Ministers, spoke for thirty-eight minutes. The right hon. gentleman was frequently cheered while explaining his reasons for leaving the Government, but it was observed that the applause came principally from the Opposition.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Teck were in the House of Commons on Thursday afternoon.

Among the peers in the House of Commons when Mr. Forster made his statement were the Duke of Norfolk, the Duke of Westminster, Lord Ellenborough, Earl Delawarr, Lord Aberdare, Viscount Bury, Lord Lamington, Lord Inchiquin, the Earl of Kenmare, the Earl of Jersey, Lord Houghton, the Marquis of Waterford, Lord Mount-Temple, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, the Earl of Camperdown, Lord Moncrieff, Lord Rowton, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Lord O'Hagan, the Earl of Longford, Lord Stratheden and Campbell, and the Earl of Pembroke.

The Select Committee of the House of Lords on the working of the Irish Land Act met on Friday, and agreed to a report upon their inquiry so far as it had gone. They recommend several improvements in details of procedure, and especially suggest further provision for carrying the purchase clauses into execution.

Lord Frederick Charles Cavendish, M.P. for the North-West Riding of Yorkshire, who has accepted the post of Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, vacant by the retirement of Mr. Forster, is the second surviving son of the Duke of Devonshire, and brother of the Marquis of Hartington and of Lord Edward Cavendish, M.P.; his mother was Lady Blanche Howard, fourth daughter of George, sixth Earl of Carlisle, and he was born in 1836. Lord Frederick Cavendish was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and was private secretary to Lord Granville while President of the Council from 1859 till 1864, and also acted in the same capacity to Mr. Gladstone from July, 1872, till August, 1873. His Lordship has sat as M.P. for the North-West Riding of Yorkshire since 1865. He was Financial Lord of the Treasury in Mr. Gladstone's Administration, from August, 1873, till the following February. Lord Frederick Cavendish married, in 1864, the Hon. Lucy Caroline Lyttelton, second daughter of the late Lord Lyttelton.

We regret to learn that the illness from which Lord Justice Baggallay is suffering at present confines him to his bed, but it is hoped that he will be able to resume his seat in the Court of Appeal in the course of a few days.—*Solicitors' Journal.*

Mr. Spencer Walpole, the newly-appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the Isle of Man, arrived at Douglas on Thursday evening by the steamer *Snaefell*. Mr. Walpole was received by Sir Henry Lock, the departing Governor; Deemsters Drinkwater, and Dumbell, the Attorney-General, and other members of the Council, the High Bailiffs of towns, and many members of the House of Keys.

The following Ministerial resignations have taken place within two years:—

Duke of Argyll	Lord Privy Seal.
Marquis of Lansdowne	Under Secretary for India.
Marquis of Huntly	Captain of the Gentlemen-at-Arms.
Earl of Zetland	Lord-in-Waiting.
Lord O'Hagan	Lord Chancellor of Ireland.
Earl of Listowel	Lord-in-Waiting.
Earl Cowper	Lord-Lieutenant.
Mr. Forster	Chief Secretary.

Lord GEORGE HAMILTON, addressing the annual meeting of the Brentford Conservative Association, said he never before spoke to any audience with such feelings of despondency, or so profoundly impressed with the gravity of the condition of affairs. Being the son of a large Irish landowner, and having passed some years of his life in Ireland, he could speak with some degree of confidence upon the issue of the new policy of the Government. Only last October the Prime Minister had described the objects of the Land League as being those of rapine, and expressed a strong determination to repress the machinations of its leaders. On the faith of those statements all the loyal men in Ireland ranged themselves on the side of law and order. Many of those men had since been murdered, their property had been destroyed, their cattle mutilated. And now, because Mr. Gladstone was in a Parliamentary difficulty, he swallowed his own words, liberated the very men whom he had accused of being the abettors of crime, while at the same time announcing that there had been no change whatever in the policy of the Government. Perhaps during last month more and grosser crimes had taken place in Ireland than at any time during the preceding two years, and yet Mr. Gladstone came forward and liberated the leaders of a criminal association. What would be the consequence of this act? Mr. Parnell had stated that he would not have taken his coat off if behind the work of the Land League there did not loom the goal of legislative independence for Ireland. It, no doubt, formed part of the compact with Mr. Parnell that Ireland should be quiet for some months, and, as this would probably be the case, there would be exultant Liberals who would cry, "Thank Heaven we are blessed with so far-seeing a Premier." But after those months had elapsed Mr. Parnell would devote the whole of the machinery of the Land League for the repeal of the Union. The repeal of the Union meant simply civil war in Ireland, resulting in the extirpation of the Protestants unless England came to their assistance. It was, therefore, the duty of the Conservative party, and of that numerous body of Liberals who hated what the Prime Minister had done, to unite and express their views clearly at this juncture of affairs.

At the annual general meeting of the members of the Finsbury Conservative Association, Mr. GORST, M.P., moved, and Mr. KARSLAKE, Q.C., seconded the following resolution: "That this meeting views with dismay the way in which the affairs of this country, both at home and abroad, have been and are being carried on by the present Government, and would strongly urge every patriotic elector to do his best to restore to power the Conservative party, in which, under the leadership of those able statesmen, Lord Salisbury and Sir Stafford Northcote, this meeting desires to express its entire confidence." Mr. Gorst, in support of the motion, denounced the policy of the Government with regard to Ireland. Mr. Forster's promises that the Coercion Act would be the cause of the immediate diminution of crime and outrage in Ireland had not been realised, and the state of Ireland had become gradually worse. The resolution was carried unanimously.

A crowded public meeting, convened by the Reading Conservative Working Men's Association, was held at the Townhall, Reading, on Wednesday evening, Mr. Blackhall Simmonds in the chair, to hear an address from Mr. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT. Alluding to the new departure on the part of the Government, he said that this showed that the policy of the last nine months had wholly and egregiously failed. They had, without seeking the sanction of the country, thrown over the Minister who had carried out this policy, and this that they might retain office. The Government had capitulated in an ignominous manner, as they did in South Africa. He could have wished that the kindly and resolute hand of their lately revered leader were grappling with public affairs, instead of this feeble and vacillating Government. Directly Mr. Gladstone assumed office crime and outrage began to increase in Ireland; and now Ministers were going to govern that country according to the ideas of the men they had put in prison.

Lord KIMBERLEY, speaking at Hertford, justified the action of the Government in regard to Ireland, and said that if they released men who had been imprisoned on suspicion of treasonable practices, it was because they believed the back of the agitation had been broken. He thought that these men would see the evils and calamities they had brought on Ireland, and the necessity of retiring somewhat from the position they had taken up. It was the intention of the Government to steadily persevere in remedial measures, and at the same time to enforce the law, and make every man feel that the law must be obeyed and outrage cease.

The *St. James's Gazette* gives the following account of the general meeting of the Reform Club held on Thursday to vote upon the question raised by the blackballing of the Messrs. Chamberlain:—"Lord Granville was in the chair. Lord Hartington's motion was in the following terms:—

It is desirable that the election of members to the Reform Club should be conducted by a committee, instead of by ballot of the whole club, as heretofore; and that it be referred to the general committee to draw up a detailed scheme for carrying out the change, and that they submit such scheme to an adjourned general meeting to be held before June 30, 1882.

This motion was supported by Lord HARTINGTON himself in a temperate speech, in which he said that he was prepared to agree to trying the method of election by committee for three years. This raised cries of 'Two years' from some of the club members present, and of 'One year' from others. Then Mr. BRIGHT followed in a violent harangue, in the course of which he said that the blackballing system (presumably as applied to the case of the Messrs. Chamberlain, though of course the case was not mentioned) was 'stupid and vindictive.' Then Mr. MUNTZ proposed as an amendment to Lord HARTINGTON'S motion, 'That a candidate who shall have been blackballed may, with consent of the committee, on a memorial to them signed by not less than fifty members of the club, including the proposer and seconder of such candidate, be again put up for election at the next ballot.' Mr. Muntz thought it was hazardous to change a system of election which had worked well for another which, when it was tried some years ago, had been found to bring into the club many objectionable persons. Mr. SALA being called for, made a speech which Lord GRANVILLE described as 'witty eloquent, and passionate' against Lord Hartington's motion; he objected to surrendering the freedom enjoyed by the members of the club in choosing their associates. Other gentlemen wished to address the meeting in opposition to Lord Hartington's proposal; but these the chairman had no time to hear, important business calling him elsewhere. Therefore he put the motion to the meeting at once, and about two-thirds of the members present held up their hands for it. Thereupon a requisition signed by twenty members of the club for a ballot was presented to the chairman. This ballot will be taken a fortnight hence. It should be added, as an illustration of the anxiety of the officials of the party to obtain a majority for Lord Hartington's proposal, that Lord Kensington, the Liberal whip, had issued circulars from the Treasury on its behalf. Another circular, signed by Messrs. Baxter, S. Morley, and Phillips, has also been addressed to all members of Parliament who are also members of the club."

The extensive market buildings at Aberdeen were destroyed by fire on Saturday night, and an old man was burnt to death. The loss is estimated at upwards of £30,000.

THE CABINET AND THE IRISH CRISIS.

The *Times* thinks that Mr. Forster's resignation was inevitable; and the Ministry, when they resolved upon their present course, must have made up their minds to lose the services of a statesman whose industry, patience, courage, and patriotism were worthy of a happier fortune. The Government, like a physician who has tried an heroic method of treatment with a patient at death's-door, now suddenly rushes into a course opposed in every characteristic to that which has been given up. Such a change in medical practice would be deemed daring and even desperate. The Government have accepted the responsibility. It must soon—very soon—appear whether the venture will be justified by success or not. There can be no doubt of the judgment of the country if, after this final effort to vanquish Irish lawlessness by further concessions, the reign of disorder and dishonesty should be re-established in uncontrolled authority by the practical suspension of hostilities against the Land League.

The *Standard* declares that the Radical party has triumphed all along the line, and a new era is opened up in English politics. For the first time in our history the English Executive has surrendered unconditionally to the representatives of Irish ideas. Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues undertook to govern Ireland by the application of particular principles. They now declare that these principles were mischievous and delusive. What cannot be understood after such a confession is that the country should not be offered the opportunity of placing itself in the hands of new advisers. The Chief Secretary has been but the agent of his colleagues. If the necessity of retirement exists in his case, it must exist equally in the case of every other member of the Cabinet. The idea that a Government can commence a new departure with clean hands by shaking off a Minister who, by the accident of his position, is specially associated with the blunders made in the past, is monstrous in itself, and strikes a direct blow at the doctrine of joint Ministerial responsibility. Nothing of the sort has ever before been witnessed in the records of English Governments.

The *Morning Post* contends that the Government are hurrying the country headlong towards that "social revolution" which a short time ago Mr. Gladstone professed to regard with so much abhorrence. It appears to be the fate of that statesman to eat not his words only, but, one after another, the most solemn declarations of his life. Tuesday's deliverances are nothing more than a continuance of this miserable—it might almost be called shameful—record of time-serving shifts, of alternate boastful proclamations of future success, and ignominious confessions of present failure. For the moment we only have the boasts; but the time that must elapse before we hear of the failure can only be a matter of weeks if not of days.

The *Daily Telegraph* describes the situation as one in which a small knot of members below the gangway to the left of the Speaker—men not remarkable for surpassing intellectual attainment or social weight—have, by their peculiar mode of warfare, completely triumphed over their avowed enemies, the statesmen entrusted with the destinies of the Empire. We shall not have long to wait before the intended Irish policy of the Government is made known in all its details. That it may prove of immediate and lasting benefit to an unfortunate and distracted land will be the hearty wish of every loyal subject in these realms.

The *Daily News* approves the policy of the Government, admitting that of course such a policy cannot be ventured on without risk and without sacrifice. One sacrifice is the loss of Mr. Forster. It is quite true that the general principle on which he acted was the policy of the Government and not of himself alone. But the administrative details of that policy were left in Mr. Forster's hands, and for them he was responsible. It is clear that his administration had failed. It is likely that Mr. Forster yielded too much to the influence of the permanent staff in Dublin Castle.

The *Manchester Guardian* cannot doubt that Mr. Forster's opinion differs gravely from that of most of the other members of the Cabinet as to the expediency of choosing the present time for the release of the leaders of the Land League and of others of the imprisoned "suspects." It is this which gives to the resolution of the Government a gravity which cannot be disguised. They are acting presumably in the teeth of the advice of the responsible Chief of the Irish Executive, who was also till Tuesday their trusted colleague. The fact cannot but be to some extent disquieting, but there is another way of looking at it. Its very seriousness and the heavy sacrifice which it involves are proofs that, in the view of the Government, there were the most weighty and decisive reasons in its favour.

The *Manchester Courier* says it is difficult to see what is being done without shame: it is impossible to speak of it without indignation.

The *Liverpool Courier* regards the statements of Tuesday as showing that the Gladstonian notion of high political principle consists in holding on to office tenaciously, and swallowing one's own principles without compunction or any sense of shame. The change of front is certainly thorough, if not dignified.

The *Liverpool Daily Post* does not attempt to settle whether upon Englishmen or Irishmen rests the sadder and sorrier burden of foolishness, prejudice, and perversity. Certain it is that Parliament—or at least the House of Commons—has been trying of late to make Ireland happy; and, with the stumbling-block of coercion removed, and the curse of the arrears about to be exorcised, Ireland may now, if she will, enjoy the fruition of the felicity intended for her.

The *Leeds Mercury* believes it would ill serve the Liberal party and the Liberal Government if it did not say that throughout England the news will be received by Liberals generally with a feeling not merely of deep regret, but of something like resentment. Most earnestly will all patriots trust that the decision of the Government in this matter may be justified by its success. But they cannot be surprised if many Liberals regard the experiment upon which they are now entering with fear rather than with hope, and if amid expressions of loyalty to the leader of their party are mingled notes of apprehension and alarm as they observe the agencies by which this revolution has been brought about and the circumstances amid which it has been accomplished. It would have been better if Ministers had trusted to the sagacity of the great mass of the Liberal electors throughout the country, and if, instead of listening to the poisonous tittle-tattle of the clubs and of the newspapers that are the organs of the shallow cynicism and unconcealed self-seeking of Pall-mall, they had taken the opinion of the great constituencies of England on this question, and had left the nation as a whole to do justice in the end to the courage and consistency with which they had pursued their laborious and painful task.

The *Yorkshire Post* finds it impossible to overestimate the gravity of the intelligence. All the circumstances point to the probability that Ministers are as much as ever divided and unsettled in their counsels as to the solution of the Irish difficulty. They undertook to solve a problem, and persuaded the country to oust an honest and efficient and unanimous Cabinet. Now failure and disaster stare them in the face, and they come before Parliament, unblushing but not undivided, promising to bring up a fresh bill of fare, but insisting that whatever happens—perish even Ireland—they must have the closure.

The *Western Morning News* describes the game of the Government as one in which the play is high, the stakes are heavy, and the skill required is great. One of the partners throws up his hand; the rest will carry on the game. Mr. Forster is patriotic enough to hope that he may prove to be wrong and his late colleagues right. They have at least this justification: that his policy has had a fair if not an exhaustive trial, and has to a large extent, if not wholly, failed. Every experiment having a fair chance of success is worth a trial. Every true patriot of whatever shade of politics ought to rejoice if the result of the "new departure" is a grand success; but very many will anticipate with dire apprehension a great failure. Success would justify this bold stroke, but failure will involve it and the Cabinet proposing it in overwhelming condemnation.

The *Newcastle Chronicle* declares that the Cabinet have capitulated; the Land Leaguers have won all along the line. The Irish Secretary has followed the Viceroy, and one or two of Mr. Forster's more pronounced colleagues may not unlikely follow him. A solid beginning is to be made with the work of creating a peasant proprietary. This is gratifying news to those who have from the first determinedly fought against coercion and never faltered in their conviction that it was bad in principle and could not under any conceivable circumstances be beneficial in operation. Probably a greater triumph for a small political party was never won than that registered to-day for the Irish members. A handful of obscure men, mostly sons of peasants, with neither wealth, civic distinction, nor social prestige to sustain them, have encountered and worsted our two great political parties. They have fought them, too, single-handed; as except from one or two forlorn Radicals they have never had an encouraging word spoken in their favour in Parliament; and yet such is the power of principle and the strength of justice, that they brought the proud Ministry of Mr. Gladstone to its knees, and caused the chiefs of the caucuses to cry, Peccavi. A more complete acknowledgment of error and a more unqualified abandonment of a line of action that has been upheld with such fatal pertinacity for eighteen months was never witnessed.

The *North Star* (Darlington) declares that so shameless a surrender to sedition, such a total collapse of authority, so abject a handing-over of a distracted country to the care of the very people whose evil courses have produced the disaster, is unprecedented. The new departure is a "moral victory" before which all election defeats, and even the Boer surrender, sink into insignificance.

The *Glasgow Herald* fears that Mr. Forster has been hounded out of office by the very people who have always insisted that Mr. Parnell ought not to have been deprived of his liberty. The whole working of the thing has been patent for a long time past. Eighteen months ago it was evident that there was a party in the Cabinet and a party out of doors that would stick at nothing to prevent a policy of coercion and defeat those who insisted on it. It was they who at the first in both positions found that the agitation of the Land League was necessary to work up public opinion here to the point of granting land reform. It was they in the outer world who have since done everything they could to show that coercion was a failure, and that Mr. Forster was not the man for his place. It is this party within the Cabinet that has now prevailed to such an extent that the statements of Tuesday became possible. Thus it is that a Minister of "unwearied diligence, marked ability, and unfailing patriotism," as the Prime Minister justly said of him is turned adrift, and the suspects on whom the "resources of civilisation" were turned by the Prime Minister, can do what they like.

The *Aberdeen Free Press* says the Ministerial statement will give general satisfaction. The Land Act is now fairly under way; but, as order has not been restored, some other and more effective remedy than coercion must be sought. Mr. Forster's withdrawal will be more unfortunate for himself than for the Government, who are now free to deal with the situation as it desires.

The *Freeman's Journal* looks upon the release of Messrs. Parnell, Dillon, and O'Kelly, and the resignation of Mr. Forster, as meaning not the fall of a statesman or the release of a prisoner, but the abandonment of a policy and the reversal of a system. The resignation of Mr. Forster was absolutely necessary for the well-being of Ireland. It is hoped that before long Mr. Gladstone, returning to his old *rôle* as the friend of Ireland, will lay on the table of the House a great measure extending the benefits of the Land Act to leaseholders, dealing with arrears, quickening the operations of the Act, and giving the purchase clauses a chance of working; and further, that such a measure will only be one of a series of great reforms winding up with the greatest of all the concessions to Ireland, of an Irish Parliament to control its own affairs.

The Dublin *Daily Express* says that the anarchic forces of Ireland have committed themselves to a conflict with the Imperial Government, and have come out of that conflict victorious. The Imperial Government has suffered itself to be defeated by an association in Ireland numbering probably only a few hundred thousand persons, aiming avowedly at the destruction of English rule in the country.

United Ireland, the recently suppressed Land League organ, is now being issued from its old offices in Abbey-street, Dublin, under the editorship of Mr. William O'Brien, who was released from Kilmainham a fortnight since after undergoing six months' imprisonment. It contains an article this week headed "Coercion Gives up the Ghost," opening thus:—

Mr. Forster has resigned; Mr. Parnell, Mr. Dillon, and Mr. O'Kelly are free. The prisons are to be cleared out—so is the Castle. As dramatic a climax as anything in history; a Roman triumph, only the captives have mounted the conqueror's car. We do not want our people to lose their heads with giddy joy. The end is not yet. Coolness, vigilance, and courage will be as needful to secure what we have won as they were to win it. Nothing has occurred that any statesman less besotted than Mr. Forster might not have anticipated. Into the pit which he had dug for the Land League he has fallen himself. He undertook by brute force to break the spirit of a nation; and all his vapourings and bayonetings, his ignominious wars with priests and women, his insane passion to drive free speech from the platform and the Press into the darkened mountain cabin and the midnight, his terrors, his predictions, and his dragonnades, have all ended in failure, smoke, and ruin. His darling dream was to depose Mr. Parnell from the confidence of the Irish people. The indignity of putting him in prison was not enough. He never scrupled to put atrocious calumnies upon him while he had him gagged there. The upshot of a whole winter's unbridled spite and tyranny is that the prisoners come back to liberty idolised and justified, while their gaoler quits Ireland a disgraced and fallen man. At every step, in every element of his calculations, he was wrong and they were right. The Land Act, for doubting whose efficacy Mr. Parnell was cast into prison, stands confessed a more woeful failure than even Mr. Parnell predicted. Landlordism, to whose abolition he pledged himself, is to be abolished. The bout of merciless repression which was to have bolstered it up has only sealed its doom. The popular spirit, which was to have been broken, has been rendered irresistible.

The writer, addressing himself to the reforms promised by the Prime Minister, adds:—

If Mr. Gladstone should spoil one other opportunity by meddling with the arrears question, by shirking the occupying-proprietary question, by simply giving coercion a new name and a more violent direction, by sparing the nest of alien car-wiggers that infest Dublin Castle and poison all the sources of Government, the Irish people will quite as quickly detect a Mr. Forster in sheep's clothing as a Mr. Forster in the uniform of an Emergency man, and will know how to deal with him accordingly. If any English statesman who comes after him, standing over the grave of Mr. Forster's political reputation, is not moved to wise reflections, English statesmanship in Ireland will follow Mr. Forster into the abyss. Our own people will, we hope, be as moderate, as self-possessed, and as firm in their hour of triumph as they were in their hour of bitter trial—neither hoping too much from others nor desponding at all, but pushing on resolutely, steadily, self-reliantly from victory to victory towards the goal.

MR. PARNELL INTERVIEWED.

The three Irish Members of Parliament who have been released from Kilmainham—namely, Messrs. Parnell, Dillon, and O'Kelly—arrived at Euston station on Thursday morning from Dublin. They came by the train from Holyhead, which meets the North Wall boat; and it was not until nine o'clock that they reached London. Their arrival being unexpected, only a few person were in waiting at the station. Mr. Parnell looked much better than he did when he arrived in London recently, on his way to Paris on parole. Since then he has shaved off his beard, and he now seems but little altered in appearance since October. Mr. O'Kelly is stouter than when he was last in London, but does not appear to be in anything like as good health as formerly. With Mr. Dillon the case is entirely different from that of his colleagues. He is evidently in a very feeble physical condition, and is even thinner and looks more like an invalid than ever. Mr. Dillon and Mr. O'Kelly expressed themselves to a representative of the Central News as both gratified and surprised at the turn of events. Mr. Dillon and Mr. O'Kelly entered a cab together, and drove to Westminster Palace Hotel, where they intend to stay. Mr. Parnell drove to his private apartments.

In an interview with a special representative of the Central News Mr. Parnell communicated the following particulars respecting his release, and the course the Irish Parliamentary party acting with him will probably adopt:—"The news of the change in the Government's Irish policy was a surprise to me. The first intimation I had of anything unusual in the political situation was a telegram on Tuesday afternoon which I received in Kilmainham Gaol, stating Mr. Forster had resigned. We could scarcely credit it at first. Later in the day we had further confirmation of the news; and at 8.30 that evening the governor of the gaol announced that I was discharged, and that my colleagues, Messrs. Dillon and O'Kelly, had also been set free. The governor further added that, so far as he had ascertained from opening his letters, four or five other suspects had been ordered to be released. The news respecting the latter had come by post; but the order for our liberation came by special messenger from the Castle. The governor added that, judging from the framing of the communication he had received from the Castle, it was desired that we should leave the prison at once; and then the governor pointed out that the word 'immediately' was emphasised. Mr. Dillon, however, not feeling well, was anxious to stop until morning; but after some conversation we agreed to drive to Kingstown. This we did, and put up at the hotel there. As we failed to catch the goods train for Avondale yesterday, we went back to Dublin and had interviews with our friends, and, subsequently, with several members of the executive of the Ladies' Land League. We left Dublin by the North Wall boat last evening, with the view of attending a meeting of the Irish Parliamentary party which has been called for two o'clock this afternoon, to discuss the political outlook generally. After the meeting, I shall go to the House of Commons. As to what the Irish Parliamentary party will do, it is difficult to say until after the Government's new line of policy for Ireland has been disclosed. At present everything is so much a matter of speculation that it will be better to await developments. It is necessary, before we decide, to wait and see what the Government are going to do with the land question. That is the pressing issue just now. We are disposed to hear what they have to say upon that and other matters. With regard to Michael Davitt, his release is one of the most vital importance, in order to secure the tranquillity of the country. Much, of course, will depend on who the new Irish Secretary is to be, for none but a thoroughly capable man will suit. No one of our party could, of course, take the office even if it were offered them; for it is improbable that the Government would concede the terms which would be asked before one of our party would ally himself with the Administration. I have to thank scores of friends for telegrams and messages of congratulation on my release. Among other messages I have received the following from the Archbishop of Cashel, at Thurles:—'Archbishop of Cashel heartily congratulates Mr. Parnell, Mr. Dillon, and Mr. O'Kelly on their release. He congratulates the country through them on the general situation, though the triumph cannot be considered complete until Michael Davitt is free, and far from it if Shaw be appointed Chief Secretary.'"

SHELLEY'S HOUSE AT SANT' ERENZO.

Mr. Alfred Austin contributes to the *Athenæum* the following interesting account of the poet Shelley's last home:—

"Known, as everybody remembers, when Shelley inhabited it as the Casa Magni, it now bears the name of its owner, Signor Maccarani, who has another and a larger house at the top of the wooded slope behind it, called the Villa Marigola. Externally it is pretty much what it was sixty years ago, when Shelley wrote, 'Like Anacreon's swallow, I have left my Nile, and have taken up my summer quarters here, in a lonely house by the seaside, surrounded by the soft and sublime scenery of the Gulf of Spezia,' and Williams entered in his journal, 'We all feel as if we were on board ship, and the roaring of the sea brings this idea to us even in our beds.' Internally the house has undergone some modification, for the unpaved terrace or ground floor, which used to serve for storing boat gear, now consists of an entrance hall, a small dining-room, and a kitchen. I have heard one who lived for many years in the Casa Magni describe how the sea would sometimes burst in the door on the ground floor, sweep through the hall, and pass out into the garden on the other side. It was evidently for the purpose of preventing this intrusion that the rough little rampart or breakwater, which did not exist in Shelley's time, was erected. In those days there was a strip of beach in front of the house. This is now at all seasons covered by the sea, which is steadily encroaching upon the land all along the Gulf of Lerici.

"What, however, threatens the Villa Maccarani with destruction is not the advance of the sea, but a projected road between Sant' Erenzo and Lerici. Mary Shelley always wrote 'Sant' Arenzo,' and Mr. William Rossetti, in the admirable memoir of Shelley prefixed to his well-known edition of the poet's works, follows her example. But I think I am right in saying that the proper name is Sant' Erenzo, which the illiterate folk therabout have corrupted into San Terenzo, and corrupted so successfully that the Post Office authorities have given in, and stamp letters as coming from 'San Terenzo.' This little place and Lerici form one commune, and they have long been striving to find the money to defray the expense of making a road between the two. The description given by Mary Shelley, where she says that 'there was only a footpath over the beach, which trailed its uncertain course along very rough ground towards Lerici,' is still applicable, with the additional inconvenience that, as I have said, the sea has now encroached upon this track. The money required for the construction of a road has at length been raised, but the Government, which meditates having a large powder magazine between Sant Erenzo and Lerici, at a point called La Vallata, has ordered the commune to suspend its decision for the present as to the course it shall take.

"Your readers will now perceive what is the nature of the danger with which Shelley's house is threatened. Will the new road pass behind the Villa Maccarani, or in front of it? If it pass in front, the house will be cut off from the water, and so lose what at present constitutes its character and its charm; and as the wind about mid-day nearly always blows from the sea, it will exchange the brisk salt breezes for the blinding dust of an Italian quay. If the road be made behind it, its garden will disappear; and, unfortunately, the house itself is so small, and of so very little value from a financial point of view, that I should not be surprised if it were pulled down altogether, and the new road made to pass right over its foundations.

"Meanwhile it remains a perfect seabirds' nest; and leaning over the terrace of the upper story, and gazing out towards Porto Venere, one can well understand the feeling that made Shelley write, not many days before his death: 'I still inhabit this divine bay, reading Spanish dramas and sailing and listening to the most enchanting music. We have some friends on a visit to us, and my only regret is that the summer must ever pass, or that Mary has not the same predilection for this place that I have, which would induce me never to shift my quarters.' The bronze-limbed fishermen were hauling their boats through the water or carrying on their heads their baskets of small fish, glittering like steel and still palpitating with life. The bronze-limbed children were romping among the rocks; and a stalwart daughter of the marriage of mountain and sea, after spreading out her hempen sheets to dry in the glowing sun, sat down on a glistening boulder, and ate her mid-day *maccheroni* out of a huge yellow bowl with a wooden spoon. The place still clings to the primitive ways that attracted Shelley. But once let the projected road be made, and even if the house he loved survives, it will be to figure as a smart *bourgeois* villa, approachable by no boat and eloquent to no pilgrim."

PAINTED WINDOWS, as memorials of departed worth and gallantry, have an interest in the eyes of all, the evidence of this being striking on the occasion of the unveiling of "The Memorial to the 24th Regiment" at Brecon, executed by Mr. W. G. Taylor for their comrades, past and present. He will have pleasure in showing the design at the "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London.

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LONDON, MAY 6.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

The "new departure" in Irish policy, which it has been for so long hinted that the Government would make, has at length been accomplished. With abounding courage and utter shamelessness HER MAJESTY'S Ministers have resolved, in the ignominious failure of their own endeavours to govern Ireland, to call to their aid those whom they have allowed to become its real rulers. Mr. PARNELL, Mr. DILLON, and Mr. O'KELLY have been released from Kilmainham, and HER MAJESTY'S Ministers will henceforward endeavour to give effect to the principles of the Land League. Further legislation for the plunder of the Irish landlords is already promised. Some measure for giving effect to the demands for Home Rule is not likely to be long delayed. Anarchy and sedition have completely triumphed in Ireland, and the English Government abandons the attempt to check the machinations of the men who are avowedly conspiring for the disruption of the United Kingdom. The indignation which this abject surrender to the forces of lawlessness and disorder provokes is of the kind that it is difficult to express in the ordinary language of political controversy. For the course they have followed the Government offer no defence and give no adequate explanation. There are blustering assurances that it will restore prosperity and tranquillity to Ireland which will not succeed in removing the convictions of common sense that its ultimate effects must be to immeasurably strengthen all the anarchic influences that are at work in Ireland. And there is a blustering challenge to the Conservative leaders to appeal to Parliament for its verdict on the step that the Government has taken. It is to be hoped that the Conservative leaders will forthwith take up the challenge. Whatever the docile majority of the House of Commons may vote, the bitter and contemptuous condemnation of the country is not doubtful. And it is well that in Parliament vigorous expression should be given to the predominant public opinion that sees nothing but shame and imbecility in the measures that the Ministers have adopted, and sees nothing but ruin and disaster at the end of the course upon which they have now entered.

None too soon for his political reputation Mr. FORSTER has resigned the position of Chief Secretary for Ireland, and has ceased to be a member of the Government. Mr. FORSTER'S tenure of office forms a melancholy chapter of political history. Mr. FORSTER, with a light heart, undertook the task of governing Ireland, and under his rule Ireland has been reduced to its present condition of anarchy. Mr. FORSTER was animated with the best intentions, and has displayed abundant courage and industry, thorough honesty and zeal; but for the government of men something more is required. It is to the policy of the present Government that the overthrow of law and order is due in Ireland, and for this policy Mr. FORSTER is responsible, and from the opprobium in which its failure has involved the Government Mr. FORSTER cannot be separated. The policy of conceding everything to agitation which was embodied in the Land Bill has had the inevitable result of stimulating lawlessness. The policy of repressing disorder and punishing crime, which has been stigmatised as a policy of coercion, has never yet been fairly tried. Of its necessity Mr. FORSTER was long since convinced, and urged his convictions upon the Ministry of which he was a member. When he found a year ago that he could obtain no effective co-operation in his application for the necessary powers to deal with a treasonable and dishonest conspiracy, it was his duty to have resigned a trust which he recognised that it was impossible adequately to discharge. It is notorious that it is in the Radical Cabinet itself that the Land League conspiracy has found its most powerful allies in the work of reducing Ireland to anarchy. When the Coercion Act was at length passed Mr. FORSTER never utilised its powers with vigour and effect, and was in effect prevented from having recourse to them. The ridiculous measure of retaining some 700 men in pleasant quarters at Kilmainham irritated Irish sentiment and had no intimidating or deterrent influence. The suspects ought long since to have been duly tried and adequately punished for the offences of which they are notoriously guilty. At least Mr.

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FORSTER found himself unable to consent to their unconditional release. In the explanation that he gave of his resignation he stated that he could only regard their release as justifiable if Mr. PARNELL and his colleagues had publicly pledged themselves not to set up their authority in opposition to the law of the land, or if disorder had subsided in Ireland, or if fresh powers had been obtained by the Government for repressing anarchy. But Mr. FORSTER, like other men of ordinary common sense, failed to see why, as none of these conditions were fulfilled, the social revolutionists should be set at liberty—unless it was thought that the time had come for a fresh impulse to be given to the social revolution. Mr. FORSTER is to be congratulated on his abandonment of the position that he has thus far held, without advantage to the country and with but slight credit to himself. Even by his tardy retirement he will escape in some degree the obloquy that the present Ministry is steadily accumulating.

The men whom of all others in the ranks of the Liberal party are considered by the present Government best qualified at the present grave crisis to undertake the government of Ireland, are, it appears, Earl SPENCER and Lord FREDERICK CAVENDISH. Announcements of this kind are inevitably received with uncontrollable laughter. When Ireland is in the agonies of a "social revolution," when a fierce rebellion against social order and political authority is in full progress, it is considered fitting to confide the defence of the most serious interests of the State and of Society to Lord SPENCER, who is simply an ornamental personage in English politics, and to Lord FREDERICK CAVENDISH, who owes it to the accident of his birth that at an advanced age he has been thought qualified to discharge the duties of a superior clerk which devolve upon the Secretary of the Treasury. It is manifest that, if the Government were logical, Mr. PARNELL would be the successor of Mr. FORSTER. Or Mr. CHAMBERLAIN would be given the opportunity of openly carrying out the policy which he has contrived to have adopted. But both Mr. PARNELL and Mr. CHAMBERLAIN probably see the advantage of possessing power without responsibility. As a puppet, Lord FREDERICK CAVENDISH possesses distinct recommendations. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN will have excellent opportunities for displaying the skill that he admittedly possesses in pulling the strings.

One consequence of the sudden reversal of their Irish policy by the Government is that Mr. W. H. SMITH has withdrawn his resolution in favour of peasant-proprietorship in Ireland. It is, perhaps, not altogether to be regretted that this should be the case. Until the details of Mr. W. H. SMITH's scheme were known, it was of course impossible to pronounce any opinion as to its merits. But the abstract objections to any similar projects of political philanthropy are obvious. It would undeniably be a good thing if there were established on the soil of Ireland a race of small freeholders having all the conservative instincts and tendencies that the possession of property naturally evokes. But whether such a class can be artificially created, and whether at the present time its creation is possible, is exceedingly doubtful. To expropriate the landlords and to make the tenants tenants of the State would, it is to be feared, only pave the way for the realisation of Mr. PARNELL'S schemes for the establishment of Irish independence. The English taxpayers, too, would strongly object to incurring liabilities such as would apparently be imposed upon them. And as the Irish peasantry are now practically the owners of their holdings, subject to a rentcharge, there is no temptation for them to become purchasers, even if they did not indulge in the hope that by persistence in the agitation that has already been so profitable they would ultimately abolish the rentcharge altogether, or at least materially reduce it.

Another evening during the present week has been devoted to the discussion of the measures for muzzling the House of Commons to which Mr. GLADSTONE attaches such supreme importance. Mr. O'DONNELL proposed that the *Clôture* could only be applied at the instance of a Minister of the Crown. There was obviously much to say for this proposal. In this way it would be made obvious to the meanest capacity that the step taken was taken by the Government, whilst, if the initiative devolves upon the SPEAKER, it would not be universally known that the SPEAKER was simply acting as the tool of Ministers. The notable speech of the evening was that made by Mr. STANLEY LEIGHTON, in which, answering the pleas that reliance can be placed on the impartiality of the SPEAKER, he not only adduced striking evidence from past history in proof of the fallacy, but proceeded to point out how little reason there was for trusting to the impartiality of Sir HENRY BRAND. Future Speakers will of course be chosen for their amenability to party discipline. It is naturally pleasanter to indulge in polite conventionalities as to the present occupier of the Speaker's chair. But it is foolish not to remember that Sir HENRY BRAND is the last man who ought to occupy his present position, seeing that he was for so long the Whip of the Liberal party. And it is impossible to forget that his famous *coup d'état* of last Session was a defiance of legality and an unwarrantable exercise of arbitrary power, and was taken in concert with the PRIME MINISTER, in deference to the political necessities of the Ministry. By his *coup d'état* the SPEAKER rendered it impossible for further confidence to be placed in his regard for law, or in his official impartiality. But he was subsequently offered by the Ministry and accepted the Order of the Bath.

Home politics, with good cause, so completely engross the attention of the English people, that but little attention is given to foreign affairs. Even at the present time, however, the progress of events in Turkey ought not to be overlooked. There has been a change of Ministers at Constantinople, and ABDURRAHMAN PASHA has taken the place of SAID PASHA. But it would seem that there is more of personal than political significance in the new Ministerial arrangements. The SULTAN, at the present time, takes to such an extent the control of policy that his Ministers exert but little influence. Just now the question of supreme importance for the Sublime Porte is the settlement of the claims that are put forward by Russia for a war indemnity. It appeared at the time a grave blunder that the Berlin Treaty should countenance in any fashion the Russian demand for an indemnity. It was abundantly clear that Russia was thus put into a position to extort at some future period fresh concessions from the weakness of the Turkish Government, and had ready means always available for reopening the Eastern Question. The possibility of a pecuniary payment by the Turkish Government is of course remote. Russia now proposes a further cession of territory in Asia Minor. To this, however, the German and Austrian Governments are said to raise objections. It would be interesting to know what course the English Government has felt it desirable to take. Perhaps it has considered the whole question as one in which England has no concern whatever. Perhaps it holds that the cause of humanity will be promoted by handing over fresh populations to the Government that has shown in its treatment of the Jews how well it understands how to deal with those who are aliens in race and religion.

THE TRIUMPH OF TREASON.

The Radical Government has made an unconditional surrender to the Irish Land League, and Ireland is henceforward to be governed in accordance with the views of Mr. PARNELL. This is the new policy upon which the Ministers have suddenly resolved, and have carried out with a shamelessness of tergiversation that it is pleasanter not to characterise. All the reasons that justified the Ministry in obtaining from Parliament the arbitrary powers embodied in the Coercion Bill are as forcible as ever. All the public causes that justified the arrest of Mr. PARNELL and his colleagues, and warranted Mr. GLADSTONE in his melodramatic exultation, are unchanged. None of the conditions that the not very exacting disposition of Mr. FORSTER urged as the necessary conditions of release have been complied with. The imprisoned suspects have given no engagements as to their future good conduct. Ireland so far from being tranquil is more disturbed than ever. The Government, instead of being intent upon strengthening its authority, is ready to abandon its present powers. None the less, it is decided to restore to the social revolutionists their opportunities for mischievous activity, and to proclaim to the Irish party of lawlessness that the effort of the English Government to suppress anarchy has been defeated. Coercion has failed—in reality, coercion has never been seriously resorted to—and now conciliation is to be again attempted. Ireland is to be governed in accordance with Irish ideas, and Mr. PARNELL is to be accepted as the recognised exponent of the hopes, desires, and ambitions of the Irish people.

The English people has possibly not yet grasped the entire significance of the new Irish policy that has been entered upon with startling abruptness. There is, perhaps, a faint hope that there really may be some amelioration in the condition of Ireland, as the result of the evidence that the Government has given of its intention to concede the demands of the Irish agitators. But there is little reason for indulging in this pleasant anticipation. Possibly there may be a lull in the grim succession of murders and outrages that in these days make up the chronicle of Irish domestic history; but, even if this is the case, no permanent diminution of crime and outrage can reasonably be expected. It is by crime and outrage that the Irish agitators have won the successive concessions of their demands from the Government, and to crime and outrage they will resort until their extreme demands are satisfied. Mr. GLADSTONE states as his excuse for releasing Mr. PARNELL and his colleagues that he had information that they would be found on the side of law and order on certain conditions. But Mr. PARNELL, Mr. DILLON, and Mr. O'KELLY were careful to repudiate this extravagant supposition. It is possible indeed that even if Mr. PARNELL desired to suppress anarchy he would find himself powerless to struggle against the forces of lawlessness that he has called into existence. But Mr. PARNELL, whilst ready to aid the Government to pass a measure embodying the principles of Mr. REDMOND'S Bill, carefully refrains from binding himself by any sort of engagement such as Mr. GLADSTONE desired to imply that he had entered into.

If the advantages that the Radical Government hope to obtain by their abject surrender are dubious and problematical, there is no manner of doubt as to the reality and importance of the benefits that will accrue to the Irish Social Revolution. In the first place, the triumph that the Land League and its leaders have achieved will add immeasurably to the power and prestige that they wield. If before his imprisonment Mr. PARNELL was in the position of an "uncrowned "king" in Ireland, how much more will this be true since his release! The seditious organisation that Mr. PARNELL has so shrewdly directed will once more renew the activity of which the public and open manifestations have been for a time checked. The conspiracy against the QUEEN'S authority in Ireland will now be carried on under the most encouraging of auspices, and with prospects of ultimate success such as never before have cheered it.

Besides the consolidation of its influence in Ireland the Land League has also to congratulate itself on the solid success it has achieved by imposing on the Goverment the task of introducing fresh legislation that shall give effect to the principles and demands of the Land League. There is to be more plunder of the Irish landlords, there is to be a fresh reversal of the rights of property. Mr. GLADSTONE hesitates to declare what those Irish measures are to be to which the rest of the Session is to be devoted, and he must probably wait the result of further negociations with Mr. PARNELL before he commits himself to any declarations on the subject. But after the discussion on Mr. REDMOND'S Bill the character of the new proposals for legalising rapine and rewarding dishonesty can be readily surmised.

But further Parliamentary triumphs may be confidently looked forward to by Mr. PARNELL. There is good reason to believe that Mr. GLADSTONE is perfectly prepared to concede Home Rule to Ireland if party exigencies allow him to proceed to such a concession. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN and Mr. BRIGHT are ready to vigorously support the cause of local self-government for Ireland. The only question is how the English people will regard the concession of Home Rule to Ireland. On this point, happily, there can be no doubt. Home Rule means Irish independence, and Irish independence means the sacrifice of the power and the greatness of Great Britain. The Irish policy that the Radical Government has now entered upon leads inevitably to Irish independence—or to civil war. It is for this reason that all thoughtful and intelligent men regard the present crisis of English politics as one of a gravity that no words can exaggerate.

DRIFT.

The melancholy conversation in the House of Lords on the Oxford Statutes affords another illustration of the progress of Drift under ecclesiastical legislation by "inadvertence"—or to speak more correctly, by sap and zig-zag. Lord CARNARVON began by describing the results arrived at since the "great University "Reform of 1854." Partly by direct enactment, and partly by the action of the College authorities under the powers so bestowed, the "machinery for religious life has been entirely "swept away." Colleges founded and endowed by Bishops and Churchmen for the supply of clergymen are now wholly secular. The Fellowships have become the prizes of lay and even irreligious learning. A single Fellow in Holy Orders, in some cases only a hired Chaplain, is all that remains for the conduct of Chapel services. The services themselves are abridged and mutilated, the sacraments ministered or not ministered at the pleasure of the common room. The heads are to be no longer in Holy Orders. Lastly, attendance both at communion and chapel is purely optional to the undergraduates. "The power of regu- "lating the whole religious teaching and dis- "cipline of the University has been placed in "the hands of men professing no religious "belief whatever, not even in the existence o "a Supreme Being." His Lordship added—what, indeed, might be expected — that "numbers of young men in recent years had "returned from the University with their "faith sapped in consequence of their con- "nection with the colleges."

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY, while thanking the noble Earl for his speech, could not think the new Statutes would sweep religious teaching "entirely away," as they still furnished "*some means*" of religious life—the single Fellow or Chaplain to wit, with the permissive use of the mutilated chapel services. With this cold comfort, the PRIMATE proceeded to discuss the legal question, confessing to an "unpleasant impression" that the Commissioners had exceeded their powers or that the Legislature had inadvertently gone beyond its intention. This point is to be distinctly raised by the Bishop of LINCOLN—as usual the one Prelate ready to "endure "hardness"—in the case of Lincoln College. The ARCHBISHOP (without exactly committing himself) said, "it was contended "that the peculiarly unfortunate mode "selected for the continuance of religious wor- "ship and teaching, by hiring two persons at "£100 a year, would lead to utter and entire "failure, and would end in making the whole "religious service ridiculous and impracticable." To these damning statements the Government, represented by Lord CAMPERDOWN and the Lord CHANCELLOR, could only answer that all that had been done was by the Colleges themselves, or at their request, in conformity with the progress of Liberal ideas, and no "retrogade" was possible. This, indeed, was not denied. The Marquis of SALISBURY closed the dirge-like discussion, by stating that he should himself have moved the rejection of the new Statutes but for the conviction that even their infinitesimal *modicum* of Christianity is more than can be expected from the present House of Commons.

Such is the position into which the Church has drifted in the University, under the action of the great Liberal Party. Drift is generally a notorious factor in shipwreck. It has been the motive power of Mr. GLADSTONE'S policy ever since he slipped his Tory moorings. He drifted under Lord ABERDEEN into the Crimean war. In the race for the Premiership he drifted into the Disestablishment of the Irish Church and the Land Act of 1871. He has just drifted, on the raft of another Land Act, into a "social revolution." He has begun to drift into Home Rule, and will soon strike on the rocks of rebellion and civil war.

Is the ship of the Church to drift, after the same helpless fashion, into disruption and disestablishment? The prospect is not encouraging. The Divorce Act, Public Worship Act, Burials Act, University Reform, were all simply "drift," without steering and without finality. The incestuous Marriage Bill now marks another current, already carrying a show of Royal favour which causes deep disquietude in the Church. If it were conceivable that the PRIMATE of ALL ENGLAND could waver on a fundamental like this the Drift would be beyond human aid. Let the Bishops take to heart the abundant warnings of the University wreck. Establishment and Endowment are the religious machinery of the nation. First the machinery is clogged and rendered inactive by the unspiritual and secular spirit of the paid agents; then it is modified and brought down to the worldly notions of the hirelings; lastly it is "swept "away" by the very world it was hoped to conciliate.

If "a double-minded man is unstable in all "his ways"—a text not absolutely obliterated

by the majority of the many minds of the Revised Version—what is to be expected from an Episcopate who cannot make a united stand *somewhere?* We are sick of conciliation. Rather than be abandoned to the dreary monotony of unceasing Drift, we could almost welcome the rock ahead. It would, at least, give the signal for taking to the boats. Even the planks and broken pieces of the ship were a better chance for life than grounding between two seas, with the forepart stuck fast, and the hinder part broken with the violence of the waters.

Reviews.

NOAH'S ARK.*

We are glad to remember that we were among the earliest to acknowledge the freshness and brilliancy of the delightful and fascinating little book in which Mr. Phil Robinson first presented himself to English readers. The literary treat afforded by the clever and striking volume in which he described to us his very varied experiences *In My Indian Garden*, and opened a new field of pleasurable enjoyment to English readers, aroused in us an expectation of further favours of a similar kind, which, we are glad to find, has not been disappointed. *Noah's Ark* is fully equal to its predecessor, and we might almost repeat for our present purpose the highly eulogistic criticism with which we then welcomed the earlier volume. Those who have made acquaintance with that volume will not require to be reminded of its varied attractions, but will, without the need of any extraneous commendation, feel attracted to *Noah's Ark;* while to those who have not read Mr. Robinson's earlier book we can cordially recommend both it and its successor, feeling certain that they will be grateful to us for introducing them to a writer who is not only a masterly observer and an admirable describer, but is also gifted with a rare sense of humour. Despite one unfortunate slip, where he substitutes Cadmus for Cacus as dragging herds of cattle backwards by the tails, in order to show that they had not gone to his cave, he is evidently a scholar as well as a naturalist. It is, indeed, difficult to say whether Mr. Robinson is more pleasant when he is serious or when he indulges his sense of fun. He begs his readers in a concluding note not to think him too much in earnest when he is serious, or altogether in fun because he jests; and there is certainly an undercurrent of playfulness when he is most serious, and of seriousness when he is most inclined to jest, which adds much to the attraction of his volume. But though *Noah's Ark* is a most delightful book, it is not one which it is easy to review. The most obvious method of doing justice to its merits is by copious and unlimited quotations. It is not only in that which the author has to say, but also in the manner in which he says it, that we find the rare fascinations of a fascinating book as full of instruction as a grave treatise on natural history, and far more full of amusement than an ordinary novel. Thus it is only by extracts that a fair idea can be given of *Noah's Ark*, and the difficulty about extracts is, that neither the space at our disposal nor common justice to the publishers allows us to make the quotations which would be necessary for the purpose. It would certainly not be fair to extract the greater part of the book, and several supplements to the *John Bull* would be requisite to reproduce all that deserves quoting. We must, therefore, content ourselves with a selection of but a very few out of the many passages which we had marked for extract, assuring our readers at the same time that there are quite as good fish in the sea as have here been brought out of it.

Though the title which Mr. Phil Robinson has selected for his book is taken from the second of the "four times only in history that men have "ever seen the beast world adequately repre-"sented in assembly—in the Garden of Eden; "in the Ark; in the Roman Arena; in the "Zoological Gardens,"—it is with the last and the least romantic of the four that he is mainly concerned; and his second title, *Mornings in the Zoo*, best describes the subjects treated of in his present "contribution to the study of Unnatural "History." His speculations as to the feelings of the various animals collected at the Regent's Park where we find "all the wild creatures of the earth "compelled to lay aside all their old habits of "forest, mountain, and prairie, and to simulate "the respectable appearance of semi-civilisation," are very amusing:—

> Now and again, no doubt, there falls on the ear of the carnivora a voice—the bleat of a goat or the bark of a deer—that recalls the reedy brakes of the Indian Teral, the forest depths of South America, or the rolling grass dunes of Africa; and then on a sudden there rush in on the caged brute's mind all the associations of that sound—brighter skies and tropical foliage, the stealthy ambush and mad chase, the struggle and its triumph and, at last, the leisurely meal by the forest pool, with the starlight overhead.
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> To the other side, again, there must often be carried in the still night, or the dull gloom of twilight and day-break, the roar of the beast of prey, startling the horned captives into momentary terror, and making them peer out, in their old wild-life instinct, with their feet all gathered together for the first frantic bound through the under-growth, to catch the first glimpse of their prowling enemy.
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> But to the one and the other alike, the hunter and the hunted, there probably comes the next instant the recollection of the actual present. The bars before them remind them that they now share a common fate; and if the deer is glad to know that the tiger can no longer pounce upon him—the tiger, too, is probably contented enough at not having to chase his dinner. Perhaps he was getting old when he was caught, and he found his meals growing too nimble for him; and so he prefers to lie still in his cage unharassed, and to have his food put into his mouth at regular hours.
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> This levelling of all distinctions of existence, by making every beast, as it were, an inmate of the same great almshouse, is a very striking aspect of a zoological garden. The nobler species acquiesce in it with evident contentment; for, though there is no guessing at the drift of the reveries of a bear, or fathoming the thoughts of a lion in a "brown study," it seems as if they had consented to the change of life with considerable cheerfulness, and that, taking it all round, existence in a cage with regular meals and no fighting was not a bad substitute for the forest and the plain, with troublesome food and quarrelsome neighbours. The humbler species make no concealment of their satisfaction with Regent's Park, and thinking, no doubt, that what such personages as lions and tigers, jaguars, leopards, and pumas—the aristocracy of the wilderness—put up with, must be worth having, they pass a happy life enough. Nothing tries to eat them. That alone is a great fact, and, recognising it, they seem to have put behind, without regret, the plains and valleys in which they once snatched a perilous freedom.

The difference between the wild life and the life of the Zoological is dwelt on again and again, and there are very many striking pictures of the former, and amusing pictures of the latter, in which that difference is vividly brought before us. Let us dwell for a moment on one of these:—

> Take, for instance, that habitual criminal, the jackal. Here in London he grows a thick close fur, his limbs fill out comfortably, and, as he sits in the front of his cage, clean, fat, and careless, looks almost worthy of the admiration the children give him. Yet what creature in all Asia—that continent of pariahs—has been in its time such an outcast as he? The hyæna even managed to retain some of the dignity of mystery by keeping itself secluded, and the very musk-rat found apologists and friends. But the jackal was an utter vagabond. While other creatures made themselves homes he made none, but trusted from day to day to find a convenient refuge from universal aversion. The rest of the wild beasts had regular feeding-places, and the nature of their food was the same from day to day or from night to night; but the jackal ate everything that no one else would eat, and in Asia that is so little that he always went hungry. A fat jackal was a marvel, a contented one an impossibility.
>
> All night he prowled from house to house, passed on by dog to dog, and perpetually running the gauntlet of watchmen and servants. Sniffing at the doors of hen-houses and howling outside kitchens made, however, but a poor meal, so the jackal often found himself in the morning as empty-stomached as when he started on his rounds. An old shoe under the culvert was the miserable but only resource left to him; and, having frugally broken his fast thereupon, he would curl himself up in the drain, and lie there all day—fortunate indeed if some inquisitive dog did not find him out, and hunt him through the sun-lit streets.
>
> To hear him by night as he ranged the town, dismally howling out his destitute condition, or yelping in a chorus of hunger-stricken acquaintances, the jackal seemed the very incarnation of famishing despair. Nor, seen in daylight, did he attempt to conceal his wretched plight; and, as he slunk away along the ditch, with dishevelled, bedraggled coat, and lank, starved limbs, a generous dog would be half ashamed to go after such a pitiable object.
>
> Yet he did not think lightly of himself, for, conscious perhaps of latent worth, he never hesitated to thrust his presence upon notice, and to risk the dangers of civilisation. Though fully aware of the perils he ran, he never avoided human habitations, and, given an open door, the jackal would always come in without pressing or even invitation. His loudest yells and most frantic expressions of famine were reserved for the porches or verandahs of inhabited houses, and through all his clamour, eloquent of desolation and want, there ran an exasperating tone of ribaldry and mocking. All night, perhaps, he had found no better provender than some eggshells thrown out near the cook-house and an oil-steeped rag lying at the stable door. Yet he would make bold, on such an empty stomach, to indulge in clamorous mirth, shouting, "Dead Hindoo—yah—dead Hindoo!" under your bed-room window, or to taunt the house-dog chained to his kennel, with a yelp that seemed to ask, "What! aren't you fit to eat yet?"
>
> In Regent's Park this independence rises almost to the dignity of self-respect, for, the constant fear of missiles being removed, the jackal, in common with other plebeians of the beast-world, has abandoned that scared, shifty look which used to distinguish him in the days of hungry freedom. To his own great astonishment, no doubt, crowds of men and women pass him daily, and not one of them attacks him. He has not seen a dog for months, and, though he still at times seems to be expecting something to come round the corner and hunt him, he has, to all appearance, got over his first suspicion that the comfortable present was only a hoax and a snare. Gradually therefore he tames down into confidence and composure, takes an interest in his own appearance and his surroundings, and adopts cleanly habits and quiet manners. The stages of his improvement are just the same as those of any wild tribe of human beings that comes under civilising influences, for once the scared look can be coaxed away from his eyes, a new revelation of life seems to dawn upon him, and in the orderly company of which he finds himself a member he gradually becomes worthy of the care he receives, and ranges himself on the side of law and peace.

We have selected this sketch as one of the first brought under our notice; but, as we pass on, we find many other pictures which we almost regret not to have preferred to it—as, for example, the wonderful descriptions of "My Lord the Elephant"—facetiously represented as "a square animal, with "a leg at each corner and a tail at both ends;"—of Behemoth in his native home; of the every-day life of the monkeys in some village in India; of the rhinoceros "sauntering away for miles along "the lush banks of some Javan stream, or loitering "over its food among the squashy brakes of the "Nile;" of the giraffe—"a kind of zebra gone to "seed," and "about the best instalment of the "impossible that has been vouchsafed to us," rousing our compassion by the terrible idea of "seven feet of sore-throat," with which we may compare "the many headaches at one time and "the multitudinous toothache" of the hydra;—of the jaguar—"a pampered child of Nature, the "representative in the beast world of the creole "and the negro of the Seychelles;—of the lion, which Mr. Robinson exhorts to live up to Landseer's four specimens in Trafalgar-square; and of the tiger, "the supreme type of the pure wild beast." The picture of the "splendid life" which the last leads is irresistible, and, despite good resolutions to the contrary, we feel bound to quote it:—

> The day commences for him as the sun begins to set, and he then stalks from his lair to drink at the neighbouring pool, after which, his thirst slaked, he creeps out towards the glade where the deer are feeding. The vigilant, restless herd has need now for all its acutones of ear and nostril, but it will certainly be unavailing, for the tiger is hungry, and, his prey once sighted, there is no gainsaying him. Using all the craft of his kind, the great cat steals upon his victims with consummate patience, and in such silence that even the deer have no suspicion how swiftly that stealthy death is approaching. It is like being killed by a shadow or a ghost, for not a sound of moving leaf or breaking twig, has given them warning; and yet, all on a sudden, right in their midst it may be, there is an instant's swaying of the grass, and, lo! the tiger.
>
> The next instant he is flying through the air in a terrific bound, and as the herd sweeps away down the glade, one of their number is left behind, and is already dead.
>
> The tyrant eats what he wants, and then strolls back into the jungle, indolently, and, so to speak, in good humour with all the world. We can then imagine him stalking a company of sambhur "in fun," and afterwards see him standing up alone in the open space, laughing grimly, shaking his sides at the joke, as the antlered creatures fly terrified before his form revealed; or we may watch him insolently stretching himself in the full moonlight upon the ground near the favourite drinking pool, and daring all the beasts of the jungle to slake their thirst there so long as he remains. What strange wild scenes he must witness in the grey morning, as the world begins to wake up to life and the night-feeding things go back to their lairs—with the bears shuffling along in good-humoured company, the slinking wolves, and the careless trotting boars; and the multitude of smaller creatures, furred and feathered, going out for the work of the day, or coming home tired with the work of the night.
>
> Nor is his life without brilliant episodes of excitement, for apart from the keen triumphs that he enjoys whenever he seeks his food, there are thrilling intervals in each recurring summer when the hunt is equipped for his destruction, with all the pomp of marshalled elephants and an army of beaters.
>
> The heat of May has scorched up the covert and the water, except in a few pools where a fringe of vegetation still lingers and the tiger can still find a midday lair. Here the hunters seek him, and, whether we look at the quarry they pursue or the picturesque surroundings of the day's excitement, it must be confessed that tiger-shooting has no rival in all the range of sport. Even if no tiger is seen, if the elephant grass is beaten in vain, and the coverts of cane-clump and rustling reed are drawn without a glimpse of the great striped beast, there is such a multitude of incidents in the day's adventure that it is never a blank. As the drive comes on towards the ambushed rifles, the park-like glades that stretch away to right and left are never wanting in animal life. The pea-fowl and the wild pig, the partridges and grouse of several kinds, are all afoot, hurrying along before the advancing line. The jackals sneak from break to break, and, pacing out of the jungle that marks the watercourse, come the swamp deer and the noble sambhur. Here a wolf breaks cover sullenly, looking back over his shoulder as he goes, in the direction of the shouting beaters. There a bear goes by complaining of his rest disturbed. The monkey-folk come swinging along in a tumult of the foliage overhead, and small creatures of the civet kind with an occasional hare or wild cat, slip by, all wondering at the uproar—but all unmolested alike. For the honour of death is reserved to-day for the tiger only, and he, as a rule, is the last of all the denizens of the jungle to allow his repose to be broken, or to confess that he is alarmed. But even he has eventually to admit that this advancing line of noisy men means danger, and so he retires before them, creeping from clump to clump with consummate skill. Yet the swaying tassels of the tall plumed grass betray his moving, and on a sudden he finds himself in the ambush laid for him, and from the tree above him or from some over-hanging rock the sharp crack of the rifle proclaims that the tyrant of the jungle is dead.

Our extracts have mainly represented Mr. Robinson in his graver mood, and borne testimony to his wonderful power of vivid description; but scattered through his pages are many humorous passages of which it is more difficult to convey a fair idea, as much of the fun depends upon the connection of the quaint fancies with the graver matter. Occasionally, though rarely, the author is too determined to be funny, and rather overdoes the facetious element. For example, the back garden episode is very much drawn out, and the chapter on dogs is more commonplace and laboured than the rest of the book. But there is a great deal which is genuinely humorous, and quite independent of the exaggeration to which he occasionally has recourse. His advice to "avoid personalities even towards wombats," when deprecating the action of the Zoological authorities in describing that animal as "hairy-"faced," his apology for wolves as "only dogs "that have had the misfortune of a bad bringing "up;" his statement that "the cockroach has "retained some shreds of reputation by eating mos-"quitoes;" his enumeration of the difficulties attending a cat tax, his suggestion—tell it not among the votaries of Jumbo—that the old African elephant at the Zoological which carried the children about required restuffing, having become shabby by long use; his vindication of the inartistic shapes of the animals in the orthodox Noah's Ark of the nursery; his speculations what would have happened if spiders had been as big as sheep, are examples of this, taken almost at random. There is also much genuine humour in the following sketch of the general impression produced by the Zoo upon the ordinary Bank holiday visitors:—

> The size of the elephant and the whiteness of the Polar bear, the unexpected absence of feathers suitable for hats in the ostrich, the long neck of the giraffe, the bulk of the hippopotamus, the feeding of the lions, suffice to fill them with astonishment, and when they have given the bear a bun, and the monkeys a Brazil nut, stroked the cockatoos, and recognised some of the common poultry among the ducks, they are sated with Nature, and wander about *blasés* of wild beasts, overlook the tapir as a pig, and the wild ass as a donkey, think most of the birds are very much alike, especially eagles, and grumble at the secluded habits of tame snakes.
>
> "Well, and what have you seen in the Zoo, Polly?"
>
> "Oh," said the child, "lots of things—elephants and lions and birds—and—and a kitten just like ours at home!"

Our notice of this delightful book has been somewhat desultory; but this has resulted from an *embarras de richesses* in the way of interest and amusement; and though our space warns us to draw to a conclusion, we find that we have yet many passages marked for extract. We shall, however, confine ourselves to a real not a clerical 'lastly;" and, as most of the quotations which we have given relate to the present, perhaps it is as well to conclude with one relating to the past, in which Mr. Robinson gives a powerful sketch of the age of silence and twilight and snow, which was, in very truth, an epoch of monsters:—

> In Australia a huge marsupial, with the head of an ox, and compared to which our kangaroo is only a great rat, straddled and hopped about as it pleased, in the company of wombats as big as bears; and in America the megatherian sloth crept browsing among the forests of the primæval continent, like some bulky thing of Dreamland, voiceless, solitary, and slow-footed; while the glyptodon—the wondrous armadillo of the past, that could have driven its way through a street of houses as easily as the mole tunnels through the furrows of a field—wandered with the same strange loitering pace along the river banks. In those days there was no need for the beasts to hurry, for life was long and there was nothing to harm them; so they crawled about on land and waded in the water as lazily as they pleased. It is true that the extinct kangaroo, as big as a hippopotamus in the body, had an enemy in the "pouched lion;" but there were twenty kinds of lesser kangaroos which the carnivorous beast could attack first; so the largest lived on in peace and flourished, growing more and more huge, until at last Man appeared upon the scene and annihilated the genus. For reptiles, our own colonies in Africa supply individuals worthy in every way to have been the contemporaries of these giants. Huge herbivorous dragons—two-tusked reptiles with the skulls of crocodiles—grazed along the rich pastures of the antediluvian "Cape;" while in England, in the Weald, there lived the iguanadons, prodigious creatures of the lizard kind, with large, flattened, crushing teeth, covering the palate above like a pavement, and working upon a corresponding breadth of surface in the lower jaw.
>
> For birds, again, we need go no further—for we should certainly fare no better—than our own colony of New Zealand, which monopolises the wonders of the bird paradise, where a score of gigantic feathered things, as big as camels, had the islands all to themselves, feeding to their hearts' content on the nutritious fern roots. The nurseries of the dinornis and the moa had, however, their "bogey" in the terrible Harpagornis a bird of prey far larger than the condor or the lammergeyer, and sufficient in itself to justify the old-world traditions of the roc, the sirmurg, and the other gigantic fowls of story. But the adult birds had no cause for fear even from such an eagle as this; and so the geese grew so big that they could not fly, and gradually dispensed with wings, and the coots became so prodigious that they, too, gave up flying as a troublesome and unnecessary method of locomotion, and everything at last came to waddling about together, too fat to go fast, and so secure from harm that they had no cause for haste.
>
> It was a grand world in one sense, but a stupid, useless world in other respects. The leviathans and the behemoths of the time—creatures of unlimited space and time and food—prowled about, without any horizon to their migrations, cropping the herbage as they went and dying where they happened to be standing last. They would not even take the trouble to settle for posterity the question as to the exact limits of their habitation, but dropped their preposterous bones into snowdrifts, which melted and swept them off to distant sea-beds, or into rivers which tumbled their venerable remains along from the centres of continents to their shores, or left them stranded with all sorts of incongruous anachronisms to puzzle the ages to come.
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> In a small way, it is true, we take our revenge of them by using their old frozen-up tusks and bones for knife-handles, but the triumph is a poor one. It is far more to the purpose that in spite of their obstinate attempts to make their history a puzzle, and the conspiracy of streams and glaziers to obscure their antecedents and surroundings, we have nowadays men of science who can extort her secrets from Nature, and squeeze all mystery out of the rocks and the fossils they hold. Fifty years, it is true, may elapse between the fitting of one bone on to another, as has happened with some of those "extinct animals" which Professor Owen has created afresh for us, but in the end human patience and brains triumph, and, bit by bit, we see the prodigies of a glacial Britain or Siberia restored to shape and assigned to their several places in time and nature.
>
> Ours is a world of smaller beings, but it is a world of life and mind and work, and there is no room in it for the old idle things that lounged about the earth's surface in the days when the woolly rhinoceros made our Britain its home.

* *Noah's Ark; or, Mornings in the Zoo.* By Phil Robinson.—London: Sampson Low and Co., 1882.

NEW NOVELS.

The new book*, by the accomplished author of *Citoyenne Jacqueline* and of many other pleasant and popular novels, is somewhat disappointing. It is not a novel properly so called, but simply a collection of very slight stories, which may probably have already appeared in some of the monthly magazines, though there is no indication on the title-page of their having done so, nor can we call to mind having already met with them. They are—as is, indeed, ensured by their authorship—gracefully and pleasantly told, but there is really so very little in them that we cannot but wonder that even the most partial literary parent should have deemed them worth reproducing in the more permanent shape to which they have now aspired. The stories are four in number, and the longest of them occupies a volume and a half, though it has not so very much more in it than its less lengthy companions. The title selected is somewhat misleading, and likely to give an erroneous impression of the nature of the stories here collected. Each of them, it is true, deals with Scotch people, and in each there is a marriage: so, in a strict and literal application of the title, we cannot contest that it is appropriate. But in not one of the four stories does anything turn on the peculiar character which we, south of the Tweed, are apt to connect with the Scottish marriage law. Fearful and wonderful as are the eccentricities of that law, and useful as they have been found by many preceding novelists, Miss Tytler has not been induced to rely upon these eccentricities to enhance the interest of her stories. We have in them none of those doubts whether a marriage is a marriage at all, which have been so often introduced with success by writers of fiction, from Mr. Wilkie Collins downwards, or upwards as the case may be. No confiding maiden is entrapped by an unscrupulous suitor; no simple-minded Southerner finds himself married before he is aware of it. There is, indeed, an elopement, in which no less a personage than a Lord of Session takes part; but

* *Scotch Marriages.* By Sarah Tytler. In Three Vols.—London: Smith, Elder, and Co., 1882.

Harry Balfour might, as the writer admits, just as easily have married the lady of his affection without adopting the undignified masquerade to which he has recourse. "Lady Peggy" tells us how the unfortunate results of a marriage unsuitable as regards the rank of the contracting parties—which is by no means the *specialité* of a Scotch marriage—were averted by the kindly common sense and generosity of a cousin of the husband's; and "Jean Kinloch" has, if possible, a still slighter foundation on which to rest its claim on our attention. "Hamesucken" is the name, strange to Southern ears, of the longest and the most elaborately worked out of the four stories. This mysterious term is fortunately explained for us by the author, as that technically applied by the early Scotch lawyers to the crime of an assailant who has deliberately sought his victim in his own home, and there inflicted upon him severe injury. The sentence which, by the old law, would be inflicted upon such an offender would be transportation beyond the seas for life, but in the present case he gets off with a sentence of six months' imprisonment, of which only three were actually undergone, the rest being commuted owing to his state of health. But it must be observed that though the title selected is a striking one, it has really little to do with the story, and nothing turns on the special character which the old Scotch law assigned to the assault committed by the brother of the heroine upon the hero. The real interest of the story is to be found in the relations between the minister, risen from the ranks, and the young lady who is piqued, by his under-estimate of her intellectual powers, into a flirtation with him. There are some clever sketches of his elders, and the minister himself is well drawn; but, as in the case of Mr. and Mrs. Baillie, the marriage ceremony is performed with all the proper rites, including the crying three times in the kirk. There is not even that flavour of the irregularity of a Scotch marriage which is to be found in the union of Drumsheugh and Peggy Hedderwick. As we have said, all the stories are gracefully told; but we must own to the existence of a strong doubt in our own mind whether they were worth telling. They were certainly little worthy of being presented in the pretentious form of a three-volume novel. We should mention that, by a curious blunder—which as it is not the fault of the binder but of the printer, is probably not confined to our copy—some of the pages of the first and second volumes are interchanged. This is somewhat puzzling to the reader, who has had no warning of the solution of continuity; but any one who has notice of it beforehand can, by turning from one volume to the other and back again, preserve the thread of the story, as the numbering of the pages is correct; but every now and then a couple of pages which belong to the one volume are to be found in the other.

*An Angel Unawares** has, at least, in common with Tennyson's *Princess*, that while its beginning is light, almost to grotesqueness, it goes on increasing in seriousness, until the author brings us "last to quite a solemn close." It almost seems as though the book had been written by two different people, of whom one had carried out, while he deepened and intensified, the more frivolous intentions of the other. The novel opens with a sufficiently unpleasant picture of a discordant family life; a father and mother who have let the reins fall from their feeble fingers, an unscrupulous son, who has usurped their authority, and a sister who sees the evil and is powerless to remedy it. This sister Rachel is the heroine. Disgusted with her life, she embraces, or more correctly speaking she creates, an opportunity for escape, and finds herself, somewhat to her own surprise and much to that of everybody else, an inmate in the house of a foolish and fast little widow, whose social position is on the debateable ground between the *grand-monde* on the one hand and the *demi-monde* on the other. Rachel has utopian ideas of elevating Mrs. Hamilton's foolish career, but she is not allowed to remain and give effect to them. She obtains for her chaperone invitations to a very select ball, at which poor Mrs. Hamilton's conduct leads to the determination of Rachel's relatives instantly to remove her from that lady's protection. A slight coolness has already arisen between them owing to the vacillating conduct of a Colonel Eric Sterling, who had been Rachel's ideal in her home days, and who, it is only too evident, is Mrs. Hamilton's ideal also. Poor Rachel's search of a home is at first anything but fortunate, and she is next lodged with a miserly old Lady Fanny Onslow, who leaves her to get her dinner and luncheons at restaurants, but she eventually finds a heroine's true haven by accepting the suit of the honest and faithful lover who has wooed her all through the book, but whose homely qualities have been overshadowed by Sterling's brilliancy. The best scene in the novel is that in which Rachel finally rejects her first love. "I "should never know," she says, "you do tell "stories so dreadfully well," and the mingled regret and instinctive trust in her own impulse are wonderfully true to nature, as is also the way in which at first she finds nothing to say but "You rode over?" The author seems to be gifted with prescience, for Rachel does not finally accept her lover until the autumn of 1881, and we are told that, "long years after, when through "storm and sunshine Bill and Rachel still "tenderly walked together," their happiness continued, which is satisfactory at all events. On the whole it is a clever story, sometimes seeming to touch a deeper chord than the author himself suspects, and with a substratum of very close and truthful observation under a surface of some improbability and occasional absurdity.

* *An Angel Unawares.* By Courtenay Grant. In Two Vols.—London: Chapman and Hall, 1882.

The *Broken Lily** of Mrs. Mortimer Collins's novel is the emblem placed over the tomb of a young artist's wife, who died eleven years before the story opens. The title is not, on that account, at all an inappropriate one, as the mystery involved in the plot has for its central point the attraction which is possessed by this memorial for the personages of the story, who are brought together through its influence. While we cannot unreservedly congratulate Mrs. Mortimer Collins on the production of a novel which will not, in our opinion, add any lustre to her esteemed name, we gladly allow that, as a story, it has many points of interest, and that the construction is very workmanlike and satisfactory. The reader early perceives that there is a mystery somewhere, and he is not long in tracing some outline of the probable nature of it; but his curiosity is kept on the alert by the revelation of only just so much as will make him desirous of knowing more, while the full explanation of everything is reserved to the last chapter. Thornton Meadows, the hero, is a young squire, whose quixotic tendencies have caused much uneasiness to his eminently respectable family—an uneasiness which he converts into positive horror by his rash marriage with his aunt's companion—a widow with one little girl—for no better reason than that the hardships of her position excite his sympathy, and he is led to believe that they have been augmented by his notice. The marriage turns out most unhappily. Thornton Meadows conceives an exaggerated loathing for his wife, a person whose character should have been more definitely described in order to render the story intelligible, and he finds his only consolation in the companionship of his little stepdaughter, whom he educates, in conjunction with his cousin, a kind of model country parson. A mysterious stranger comes into the village, as tenant to Mrs. Meadows's dower house, and almost immediately afterwards that lady departs to London, having suddenly agreed to the separation to which hitherto she has always refused to listen. Then follows the most unpleasant portion of the story, in the passion conceived by Thornton Meadows for his stepdaughter—a situation of which no subsequent explanation can mitigate the real offensiveness. The legal barriers to his union with this young girl are, in the end, found to be imaginary; but the sudden transition from the fatherly relation to the ardour of the lover, and the ready response of the girl, who, within ten minutes, has believed herself her lover's stepdaughter, are almost repulsive; and not less so are the cheerful observations with which the father-suitor receives his mistress's apology for calling him papa. In fact, lack of refinement is the one great blot on this clever story, and it is the very last we should have expected to find. The character of Fanny, the model parson's sister, is quite needlessly vulgar. Her expressed desire to give another lady "a slap in the eye" is one instance, and her answer, when remonstrated with, is—

> O, bother it! parson's wife or not, I'm not going to be beaten down by anybody. I'm sure if I don't look sharp Charlie never will, for he's that meek and mild he'd soon be got over.

Nor is the conduct of Mrs. Meadows's first husband compatible with any code of honour known among men. He returns to find the wife he has hated married to another man, but he never discloses his identity, and allows his successor almost to impoverish himself by the large income which he pays, under the marriage settlement, to the lady from whom he is separated, and who has never legally been his wife. Moreover, he becomes his wife's tenant, and her supposed husband's most intimate friend. The humorous element of the story is supplied by a Miss Green, the familiar tract-distributing, parson-hunting spinster whom novelists might surely allow to rest in her grave now that she has served them so many good turns. Taken as a whole, in spite of much that is clever and some that is amusing, *A Broken Lily* is a disappointing book. The name of its accomplished authoress, so often honourably associated with that of her distinguished husband, will lead readers to expect qualities they will hardly find in it.

There are some books which, in spite of many excellences, put the reader into a bad temper, and dispose him to look out for defects; while there are others which, in spite of faults, have the happy knack of predisposing him to be pleased, and to pass over obvious errors with tolerance. *A Loveless Sacrifice*† belongs to this latter class. The plot is strained and improbable, the characters and dialogue are no less so; and yet, as Thackeray somewhere says of the *Stranger*, "Through the midst of this balderdash, there "runs that reality of love, children, and forgive-"ness of wrong, which will be listened to wherever "it is preached, and sets all the world sym-"pathising." Doubtless, the author had some sufficient reason for giving her novel its awkwardly sounding title, when the more effective one of "Weeping Cross" seemed ready made to her hand. Weeping Cross was an old village monument in Devonshire, which was regarded with superstition by all the people round about, as bringing misfortune to all who first met, or, indeed, who ever met beneath its shadow. The heroine, a beautiful and accomplished young lady, and the sub-editor of a London weekly paper into the bargain, meets her lover, also distinguished in the world of letters, at Weeping Cross. Both are so extraordinarily beautiful and so lavishly gifted that their combined appearance almost takes away the breath of the ordinary reader. It is a little disappointing to hear the brilliant and learned young lady-editor remark of an old woman she had not seen for some time, that she "must "be quite antediluvian by now," as if she imagined her, in some singular manner, to be growing backwards; and we venture to hope that she kept a pocket *Tennyson* for reference at her office, since "Things seen are always worse "than things heard of" would probably set the Laureate's teeth and temper on edge, if he ever met with it as a rendering of "Because things "seen are mightier than things heard." In spite of these specks on the sun, Elna is a very charming heroine, and the author has contrived to give vitality to the well-worn theme of a protracted illness, ending with the familiar "crisis" and health-restoring slumber, by her sympathetic description of the girl's devotion, and the reward it met with. Perhaps such children as the hero's little son are to be met with; but we certainly imagined he would be early consigned to the tomb which has swallowed so many of his youthful co-prodigies in fiction. However, we were extremely glad that he was spared this untimely fate, and trust that he grew up, as is the way with prodigies, a commonplace man. The marvellous child of the second story (there are two in the three volumes) is, in our judgment, less happy. She is equally unnatural, and there is too much of the passion of the woman mingling with the romantic devotion of the child to be a wholly pleasant picture. *A Loveless Sacrifice* ends, as stories ought to end, happily, and there is something very refreshing in the unbroken trust of the lovers, during the occurrence of events which would have sufficed to estrange nineteen out of every twenty heroes and heroines of fiction. Altogether, the story is a pleasant one—healthy in tone, lofty in teaching, and very sympathetic in manner and style. With such qualities as these we may well pardon a little improbability, and an occasional misquotation.

* *A Broken Lily.* By Mrs. Mortimer Collins. In Three Vols.—Hurst and Blackett.

† *A Loveless Sacrifice.* By Ida Casilis. In Three Vols.—F. V. White and Co.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

Colonel Burnaby has given us a bright and lively account of his *Ride Across the Channel* in a little shilling volume (published by Messrs. Sampson Low and Co.), uniform with the very successful *brochure* recently noticed by us which told *How John Bull Lost London.* The adventure was a perilous one enough, and the adventurer took none of the ordinary precautions which a less self-confident aëronaut would have deemed necessary. His enterprise was inspired in a great degree by the failure of Colonel Brine and Mr. Simmonds, whose elaborate arrangements contrast with the happy-go-lucky way in which their more successful competitor carried out his scheme, though at a risk which nothing but success could have justified him in running. He frankly confesses that, as a cavalry officer, he thought that it was not right that an engineer like Colonel Brine should be allowed to make such a reconnaissance; and *esprit de corps*, combined with his own acquired taste for ballooning, impelled him to attempt the voyage across the Channel. Of his own weight all readers of his *Ride to Khiva* are aware, and those familiar with the bodily presence of the gallant officer must have felt some wonder how he stowed away his legs in the car of a balloon. Feeling that he would require every available pound of ballast, he rejected the companionship of many of the numerous applicants to share his journey. Even the special correspondent of a celebrated London newspaper was declined with thanks, and at the most critical stage of his journey he felt great satisfaction at his firmness, for it was not impossible that he would have been obliged, very much to his sorrow, to drop the correspondent overboard in so dire an emergency. As our readers are aware the Colonel descended safely in Normandy, and he gives an amusing account of his hospitable reception. At an improvised banquet in his honour, the doctor of the village having proclaimed, "There will be one day a "universal republic when there will be no wars, "when we shall all be brothers"—an enthusiastic butcher broke in with "And when we shall all "go in balloons." In addition to his Channel trip Colonel Burnaby records two more adventures in the air—one in a fire-balloon, into which he jumped just as it was starting, and the other in an ingenious invention of a French aëronaut which collapsed when the two were about 3,000ft. above the suburbs of London, and there would have been no ride to Khiva, no balloon voyage across the Channel, had not the lower part of the machine in its downward progress got forced into the netting so as to form a kind of gigantic parachute.

Birthday books have multiplied exceedingly during the last few years, and of some among them the wonder has been why they were compiled, and who was likely to purchase them. The *Charles Dickens Birthday Book* (Chapman and Hall), which has recently appeared, is one of the best of its class. It is simply wonderful that the works of any one man, even of so voluminous a writer as Charles Dickens, could produce the half of the wit, pathos, epigram, and descriptive power which are scattered through these pages. Those who know the original best will be most surprised to find how much there is that they do not know, and the scope of the author's genius, which dealt almost entirely with commonplace things and commonplace people, renders it admirably suitable for a collection of sayings to fit haphazard the Smiths, Browns, and Robinsons, who like to inscribe their autographs in birthday books. Great praise is due to Miss Dickens for the manner in which she has accomplished her labour of love; she had before her a mine of incomparable richness, and she has selected from it all which could best bear the trying process of being set as solitary jewels instead of as portions of a magnificent coronal. Mr. Dickens's youngest daughter has associated her name and talents with the work by the addition of some very graceful drawings.

Mr. R. H. Stoddard's little memoir of *Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*, published by Messrs. Frederick Warne and Co., in an inexpensive form, will be acceptable to many admirers of the poet lately lost to us, not merely from the kindly and appreciative tone in which it is written but for the numerous illustrations of his home in Cambridge—one of the few American houses to which pilgrimage will be made in the future. The writer has little to tell us of the private life of his hero which was uneventful, but he gives a graceful sketch of his poetical career, and a brief criticism of his various works, which certainly does not err on the side of severity. Appended to this is Longfellow's latest poem, "Hermes Trisme-"gistus," which thus concludes, in words which have a special interest as the last specimen of his poetic powers:—

> Trismegistus! three times greatest,
> How thy name sublime
> Has descended to this latest
> Progeny of time!
> Happy they, whose written pages
> Perish with their lives,
> If amid the crumbling ages,
> Still their name survives.
>
> Thine, O priest of Egypt, lately
> Found I in the vast
> Weed-encumbered, sombre, stately,
> Graveyard of the Past.
> And a presence moved before me
> On that gloomy shore,
> As a waft of wind that o'er me
> Breathed, and was no more.

Faith, Hope, and Charity, by Anna Lisle (Groombridge and Sons), is a story of the religious novel order, the object of which is in part to depict the final triumph of Charity over worldliness on the one hand, and narrow bigotry on the other. The story is a powerful one—at times too powerful to be altogether pleasant. The episode of the little child in the gloomy Calvinist household is very painful, and altogether the book is one more suitable for the reading of adults than for younger people. The authoress displays a good deal of humour and a power of enchaining her reader's interest which will probably not allow him to quit the perusal of her story until he has arrived at its conclusion.

Mrs. Hastings's *Pebbles from the Path of a Pilgrim* (S. Bagster and Son) is a collection of tracts, which do not all of them deserve reproduction. It is difficult to see, for instance, what purpose is achieved by the record of brutality to a child, which appears under the title of *The Fatherless Girl.* The latter half of the book, which is devoted to papers on Southern mission work, is much more interesting and valuable, though even here there is no conspicuous literary merit.

A valuable contribution to the important subject of *Christian Sociology* (Dickenson) has been made by Dr. J. H. Stuckenberg, of the United States. Basing the whole of Christian policy and Christian social life upon the relations of our Lord to the members of His body, the writer traces the fulfilment of the longings of humanity to the person and work of Christ, and points out that there only do the aspirations for unity, fraternity, and equality, to borrow the cant phrases of modern liberalism and of modern unbelief, find their legitimate gratification in Him and in the society which He established. Written in a clear style, and full of suggestive thoughts, the volume is a valuable contribution to what we greatly need in these days—a survey of the foundation of Christian politics.

Since the publication of Johnson's *Clergyman's Vade Mecum*, now more than one hundred and fifty years ago, we have had no such valuable contribution to a knowledge of the canons of the early and undivided Church than that contained in the small volume of *Notes on the Canons of the First Five Councils* (Clarendon Press) prepared by Canon Bright, the Professor of Ecclesiastical History at Oxford, and the fulness of the modern annotator is in striking contrast with the meagreness of the earlier writer. The volume just published is made up of the accumulated notes for lectures given at the University of Oxford, and are thus of practical value to the student. It is, indeed, a useful handbook and introduction to Ecclesiastical History and Christian Antiquities, which, small as these notes are in bulk, should secure to it a place in every clergyman's library by the side of the volumes of Bingham and of the recent publication of Bishop Hefele on the early Councils of the Church.

How near the Spanish Church was in the latter part of the fifteenth and the early days of the sixteenth century to a reformation which might have preserved both the Spanish Church and nation from the abyss into which both have fallen, may be gathered from the little volume of *XVII. Opuscules*, by Juan de Valdes (Trübner), translated from the Spanish and Italian by Mr. J. T. Betts. The spiritual tone of these little treatises, some of which have been printed for the first time, make this book very profitable reading. The introductions to the Psalter, St. Paul's Epistles, and the Four Gospels will be read with great interest, and make us regret that the Commentaries written by Valdes on these books of Scripture have lain so long unpublished. The two small tracts, on *Sickness* and on *The Christian Conception of Christ*, will be prized as an addition to our devotional books as well as for the illustration of the temper with which Spanish theologians attempted to renew the knowledge of Divine truth in the midst of the bigotry, ignorance, and formalism of the sixteenth century. We are greatly indebted to Mr. Betts for his share in this small volume, and we trust that the success of this venture may encourage him to the speedy publication of the

Commentaries of Valdes which he has already translated. The theologians of that country were in no department so great as in that of the exegesis of Holy Scripture.

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

The *Athenæum* states that Mr. Darwin has left an autobiography behind him. There has also been found among his papers a sketch of his father, about equal in length to that of his grandfather which was published some time ago.

Mr. Froude, in the first two volumes of his *Life of Carlyle*, regrets that he has not been able to discover more of the letters which passed between Goethe and Carlyle. It now appears that a series of hitherto inedited letters which passed between these distinguished men of letters, and which has been recently discovered, will shortly appear in the *Magazin für die Literatur des In-und Auslandes.*

Sir David Wedderburn, M.P., who recently returned from an extensive tour in South Africa, is engaged in preparing a paper for one of the monthly magazines, in which he will recount his experiences and give his opinions on the political problems which await solution in the South African colonies.

The Earl of Lytton is engaged in preparing for publication during the ensuing autumn the earlier volumes of his father's life. Anyone who may be in possession of correspondence with the late Lord Lytton will greatly oblige the biographer by intrusting it temporarily to his care at Knebworth. Letters thus confided to him will be returned to their owners as quickly as possible and in perfect safety.

An interesting collection, which bears the name of Luther, has been bought for the city of Berlin. It comprises portraits, drawings, and engravings, including those of Dürer, Cranach, and others, connected with Luther from his infancy until his death. His wife, children, and parents are included in the series of portraits. Another group comprehends his disciples; another his princely protectors. In addition are many likenesses of the precursors of Luther, such as Huss, Tauler, and Savonarola.

Mr. Foley has nearly ready his seventh edition of the *Records of the English Province of the Society of Jesus.* This volume contains an exhaustive list from original documents of the members of the Society in England and Ireland from the first foundation of the two Provinces, with biographical and genealogical notices invaluable to the antiquary and genealogist. Mr. Foley also gives a great deal of hitherto unpublished information respecting the working of the penal laws in the Archbishopric of Canterbury and in other dioceses.

According to the *Academy*, Mr. Ernest Longfellow, the son of the poet, announces that an authorised biography of his father will be issued in due time. The family will be glad of any letters or other memorials which may prove of service in the preparation of this work.

Messrs. Macmillan and Co. have in the press Professor Sayces's long-expected edition of the first three books of *Herodotus*, which will form a volume of "The Classical Library."

In our annual Parliamentary estimates, says a writer in the May number of *Leisure Hour*, there are various sums devoted to scientific objects, as well as to education and art, the last department having been growing in magnitude ever since the establishment of the South Kensington schools and institutions. The vote for the British Museum is one of a mixed character, partly for literary and partly for scientific objects. No objection is ever made to votes where science is concerned. Even in the days of "Reform Bill economy," Joseph Hume, the stern critic of the estimates, used gladly to approve of these votes, and was complimented by Sir Robert Peel for his generous liberality in such matters. But the aid given to science, with the exception of annual grants for maintenance of museums, observatories, and other permanent institutions, has always been to some extent a matter of special application and appeal. The response is usually liberal, whether it has been for Arctic explorations, or for such expeditions as that of the *Challenger*, or on special occasions such as the observation of the transit of Venus. For this latter object nearly £15,000 has been lately voted. There is a vote of £5,000 for continuing the publication of the results of the *Challenger* expedition; £4,000 for the Royal Society; and no less than £15,300 for the Meteorological Department, including £800 for the daily publication of the weather report in the newspapers. It cannot, therefore, be said that science is not liberally supported by the British Parliament and Government. It is interesting to compare what is done in France in the same direction. The total is not so large, but money seems to go further in the hands of French men of science, travellers, and institutions. In addition to the usual grants to museums, observatories, and other permanent objects, there is a regular and annual vote of 200,000 francs, or £8,000, for "missions scientifiques." Year by year this sum has enabled Frenchmen to pursue geographical, ethnographical, and other researches of a scientific kind in every region of the world. The results appear in the many valuable additions to the public museums, and in books of travel, whether official or in such popular forms as the *Tour du Monde*, the publication of which makes all nations partake of the benefit of the French liberality towards their scientific voyagers and travellers. The vote is in the Department of the Minister of Instruction, the object being connected with public education, through the increase of objects in the museums and the advancement of many branches of knowledge. The place of the Ministry of Instruction in France could with us be taken by the Council of the Royal Geographical Society, who might safely be entrusted with the duty of preparing and planning scientific expeditions, which would result in great national benefit.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY BANQUET.

On Saturday the usual banquet which precedes the opening of the Royal Academy Exhibition was given at Burlington House. The President, Sir F. Leighton, was supported by the Prince of Wales, the Dukes of Edinburgh, Connaught, and Cambridge, the King of the Netherlands, the Grand Duke of Hesse, the Prince of Waldeck, the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Prince Christian, the Duke of Teck, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Hereditary Prince of Bentheim, and Prince Philip of Saxe-Coburg. There were also present a large array of the notabilities of the political, the artistic, and the literary world, as well as the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Bishop of London, the Dean of Christ Church, and the Rev. W. Rogers. The President, having given "The Queen," proposed the health of the King of the Netherlands. His Majesty having replied, the President gave "The Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family." In responding, his Royal Highness observed that while it was perfectly clear that art in this country had in no wise degenerated, and that year by year excellent pictures and statues were exhibited, not only at the Royal Academy, but in other buildings in London and throughout the length and breadth of the land, our artists had shown their proficiency as soldiers, as well as displayed their skill in the use of the brush, the pencil, and the chisel. He thought that Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar would agree with him that at the late review the Artists looked as efficient and satisfactory as any of the various Volunteer corps who assembled on that occasion. (Cheers.) The Duke of Cambridge and the Earl of Northbrook replied for the Army and Navy; the Duke of Edinburgh speaking for the Reserved Forces.

Earl Granville, who responded for Her Majesty's Ministers, disclaimed any aptitude for art. At school he did once make a beautiful drawing of a church. (Laughter.) "I remember well the pride of the family circle; but it had its fall when, upon being asked to reproduce the sketch, I found it impossible to do so in the absence of my master. (Renewed laughter.) I found myself later at Rome, at an age which I then thought old, which I now think very young. I was intoxicated by the artistic atmosphere of the place. I sought out an eminent artist, who I knew was sometimes induced to give lessons. I asked him whether I was too old seriously to study drawing. He answered that he had known persons who had begun when older, and who had met with complete success. My first lesson was as good as settled when he put a piece of paper and pencil into my hand, and requested me to draw something out of my own head. I immediately produced and handed to him with some satisfaction a pretty little composition. If I remember right, there was a cottage, a silver fir, and a bush. (A laugh.) The eminent artist was so much pleased with the perfection I had already attained that he handed it back with the observation that, on the whole, he advised me not to take lessons." (Laughter.)

"The Interests of Science and Literature" were represented by Mr. Spottiswoode, President of the Royal Society, and Mr. Lowell, the American Minister, who followed the Foreign Secretary in his personal reminiscences. "I do not know (he said) that my own artistic experience can compare with that of her Majesty's Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, which almost tempts one to parody a line of Pope, and say,

How great an artist was in Granville lost!

(Laughter.) But I remember an achievement of my own youth in some respects comparable with his own. I, too, began the art of design, and I was set by my teacher to make a drawing of a bathing-house in the neighbourhood where I lived. I succeeded, I thought, pretty well with my sketch, but it occurred to me that I could improve it by putting in a moon, which I did without much reference to what had gone before. When my teacher saw it he said, 'I must compliment you on having performed a feat which none of the great artists of the past have ever equalled. You have made moonbeams come round a corner.'" (Laughter.) Sir F. Leighton proposed "The Guests of the Evening," coupling with the toast a man, who, bearing an illustrious name, had in his turn adorned the name he bore, and who to brilliant gifts of the mind added the happy power of revealing them in English of rare grace and charm—the Lord Chief Justice of England. (Cheers.)

Lord Coleridge, in replying, said that but for the art which the Academy symbolised a thousand things in the world of nature and in the world of man would be to most of us altogether and for ever unknown. "Through you we know in some respects the outward aspects of thought and passion, both pure and impure. Through you we know the infinitely complex appearances in relation to each other of earth, and sea, and sky. In this there is instruction, in this there is delight, and it would be difficult to imagine a pleasure more ennobling, refining, and enduring than that which art can and does infuse into life. Life, at least as one gets to be old, one is apt to think becomes in a country like this, in a manner more grim, dreary, and unlovely, except for those few happy persons who have no responsibilities, no troubles, who toil not, neither do they spin. But for the great mass of the people, for the population who live in our enormous cities, for the crowds in mines, for the smelters in the Black Country, for the hundreds of thousands devoted to the pursuits of industry, how few their pleasures and how narrow the range of their enjoyments! You will admit that any one who does anything that tends to lift them up, directly or indirectly, anything which tends to mitigate their sufferings and give them pleasure, anything which sets before them something better than they see around them, ought to receive at the hands of right-thinking men immense credit. It is not that artists can do very much for those people; they never did, and I do not suppose they ever can. It may be, indeed, that the times of Phidias were in this respect exceptional, But from the days of Michael Angelo downwards none of the arts which speak to the eye except, perhaps, architecture, has ever appealed directly to the masses of mankind. But still it is true that in a broad and general sense the good of mankind and the lifting up and enlightening of life should be things for which all great artists must labour, and that artist must feel when he comes to die that he has failed if the world is not the better for his art." (Cheers.) The noble and learned Lord having, in conclusion, proposed "The Royal Academy,"

The President concluded the proceedings by pronouncing his usual tribute to the members of the Academy who had died during the past year—namely, Mr. Soloman Hart and Mr. G. E. Street. Mr. Street, he said, was an artist of fervent convictions, in whom was summed up and embodied a most interesting phase in the development of contemporary architecture. (Cheers.) "Gifted with a frame which seemed unassailable in its strength, he yet consumed it before the time in the furnace of his energy, and thus, in their full pride of production, his most brilliant gifts fell prematurely to the ground. (Cheers.) The fire is spent, and the sacred silence of the Abbey he so loved sheds peace over the ashes of the pious man to whom his art was a religion more than a pursuit. The third name, which we shall not speak again but in affectionate remembrance, is that of our honorary Professor of Ancient Literature, the late Dean of Westminster—(cheers)—remembrance most affectionate—for of the many gifts which marked him, it was not so much the lights of his intelligence, sparkling though they were, as rather the gifts of his wide, warm heart, which won and held us; and when the frail, eager face and form of Arthur Penrhyn Stanley rises within our minds, it is surely first the loving kindliness of that pure and faithful heart that speaks to us in those sensitive features and keen remembered eyes. (Cheers.) I rejoice to say that in the post he held so long he is worthily succeeded by a most distinguished scholar and a warm lover of art—our friend the Dean of Christ Church." (Cheers.) Sir Frederick went on to speak also of the late Mr. John Linnell, Mr. Dante Gabriel Rossetti, and of Sir Henry Cole.

THE SISTER'S MARRIAGE BILL.

On the above Bill Mr. Beresford Hope at a meeting of the English Church Union said that he felt strongly that this was an occasion in which he trusted he might do some little good in calling their attention to some important points in this most terribly momentous question. (Hear, hear.) It was a question that had occupied almost all his life, for this was the fortieth year of his taking Parliamentary interest in it, and in those forty years the up and downs had been many. Though the House of Lords had never shown a majority for this incestuous innovation, yet in the House of Commons the majority had been sometimes one way, and sometimes another, but never so pronounceably as to justify all the brag and bluster to be met with in the publications of their opponents. In speaking on this subject, he would take the question as it is, not the Bill before Parliament, for there was no Bill in Parliament, nor was there happily a resolution. There was to have been a resolution, but the resolution was gone, and seemingly it had not been revived. It might be revived, but it would be many weeks before a debate on it could be raised. But he took the question in the form as he presumed it would appear in Parliament, namely, the Bill which was for so many years that bantling which commanded all the tender care of its tender nursing father, the Recorder of London. (A laugh.) Well, that Bill, unfortunately, had an illustrious sponsor—the man whom everyone, without difference of opinion, must own, as a mere political fact, the foremost man in England—of course, he meant the Premier. He thought that he could do no more useful service than by dealing with one or two facts relative to the Bill, which they should well understand, and try to make others understand; for the general haze about the matter was very deplorable and very inexplicable. Well, then, he had heard the question asked right and left of him, and he daresay many of them had asked it themselves, How was it that a man like Mr. Gladstone, who had shown so much conspicuous affection for the Church—he was talking historically, and they could not deny that Mr. Gladstone was a permanent and colossal figure in the Church movement of this century—admitting that as they did, the question was, How could Mr. Gladstone have ranged himself on the side of that measure? But if they looked at the measure itself, the answer was very plain. Sir Thomas Chambers' Bill only legalised marriages contracted at the registrar's office. The only thing in its purview was marriage at the registrar's office. Mr. Gladstone's view of the matter was that the Church was safeguarded, if her clergy were forbidden to celebrate such marriages. Mr. Gladstone contended that in the name of universal liberty, these people had a right to please themselves in this matter; therefore, the registrar's office was opened to them; and Churchmen had only to go to church, and pray God to save these miserable sinners. (Laughter.) But he said this was a delusion, a mockery, and a snare. (Cheers.) Would the conscience of clergyman A. or B. or C. be in any way salved? and not his conscience only, but would the conscience of the whole Church be in any way salved by this provision? Not a bit. A clergyman saw a man and woman go to the registrar's office, and he knew that last week they were Mr. Smith and Miss Jones, but that they came out Mr. and Mrs. Smith. It then became a matter of consequence to him how he should regard that man and woman. It was a question with him whether the man and woman, coming to the Lord's Table and seeking the Bread of Life at his hands, were to be admitted as pure and holy souls to that blessed sacrament, from which the sinful and unclean were necessarily self-excluded—(cheers)—and how did this precious Bill of the Recorder help him or them? Not at all; and how a man of Mr. Gladstone's enormous intellect, keen logical power, and supernatural genius in distinguishing in matters where other people only saw identity, how could he believe that such a measure was any satisfaction to the Church? Had he ever said that he would move a clause in the Bill to excommunicate the people so married? He knew there were sitting behind him in the House men of great powers of lung, and he believed these gentlemen would have a word to say to the Treasury Bench if it introduced any such stipulations in the Bill. He (Mr. Beresford Hope) insisted upon this point, and he called upon them to repudiate as a preposterous sham, as a mere chimera, and a phantasm, the idea of limiting the performance of a service, which he might call the coupling ceremony, to the registrar's office, as any protection to the Church, when that man and woman should be turned loose upon the world. (Cheers.) It might be argued by the Church defenders of the Bill—they were the Church's worst enemies—(hear, hear)—that this was a great opportunity for the Church to show her discipline. Yes! and for refusing the Communion to these people, have a mandamus issued against that clergyman, and so show forth the Church's godly discipline in all the prisons of the land. In the great conflict of this life right could not abandon any help, or aid, or legitimate bulwark that it can command in the conflict against the world. Evil was permitted, we knew—that was the mystery of mysteries, and he would prefer to say, evil went on—good was sent into the world to combat evil, and good was commanded to avail itself and to cling desperately to every help, moral and material, whatever it might be, that could assist it in this conflict with evil; and it was almost past belief that any Churchmen could say that it was a grand thing for the Church, for the discipline of the Church, to go naked and unarmed into the world in this conflict, to throw away every protection. It was fatuous to be pleased with this Parliamentary pat on the back, and trust that the mere instinctive respectability of the people would win something called a moral victory for the truth. For an example of how the change would work, there was a couple—he supposed it would not be chronologically right to say a young couple—there was a middle-aged widower and a middle-aged spinster, neither of them very religious, but both plausible, respectable people, who would no more break an Act of Parliament of one sort than they would of another, who would never forge, steal, or the like, and perhaps were teetotallers—he would make them a present of that—only they were not very religious, they had no very fixed religious opinions—how many were there not in the world who were like that, who stood very high till they were tried—then were this Bill to pass this couple would have no scruple in going to the registrar's office, and having the coupling ceremony performed over them; and then the other people who would shrink from coming in contact with them would become a particular sect. He did not say there would be many marriages of this sort, but the tone of public opinion regarding them and their perpetrators would be hopelessly deteriorated. The people who, when invited to dinner, asked whether the Smiths were coming, and that if so they could not come, would be a very marked people, who would be very much laughed at and ridiculed. Once allow these—well, conjunctions—even at the registrar's office, and the whole tone of society would be lowered, the moral feeling of the country deteriorated, and the very foundations of the social and religious life of the people would be subverted. He had lately had the audacity to print a little leaflet on this subject, and the society for promoting the Bill had paid him the compliment to reply to it. One of his points was the extreme unfairness, even from their point of view, of snubbing the wife's niece in favour of a more elderly aunt. Their answer to that was, to print some statistics which professed to prove that where 100 men hankered after their sisters, only three wanted their nieces, as if that were any argument on a matter of principle; but they were as past argument as they were short of principle; they were past conviction, and they were past shame. As he said before, he had been engaged for forty years in this question, which had had many ups and downs in that time, and he would not say die in the forty-first year. (Loud cheers.)

THE LATE MR. CHARLES DARWIN.

There was a large congregation at Westminster Abbey on Sunday afternoon to hear the funeral sermon preached by the Bishop of Carlisle on the late Mr. Darwin, whose remains were last week buried in the Abbey. Selecting as his text the words "Complete in Him," the Bishop said that the interment of the remains of Mr. Darwin in that House of God—so crowded with the memorials of England's great poets, statesmen, discoverers, patriots, and philanthropists—was in accordance with the judgment of the wisest of his countrymen. It would have been an unfortunate thing if it had been supposed that there was anything incompatible between the results of his scientific studies and the solemn committal, with prayer and thanksgiving, to the ground of that mortal material frame which had done its work. It would have been unfortunate if anything occurred which gave currency to the foolish notion that there was a necessary conflict between a knowledge of Nature and a belief in God. On the other hand, it was a happy thing, of good augury for the country, that it should be thought suitable to bury the remains of the most conspicuous man of science in this generation with the fullest expression of Christian hope, and that no objection should be offered by those who had the power of objection, and that the course so taken should commend itself—as it had commended itself—to the conscience of the whole country. A distinguished person who was at the funeral remarked to him that as he witnessed the ceremony he felt thankful for his native land, adding that if this death had occurred in France no priest would have taken part in it, or if he had no scientific man would have been present. There was a mournful truth in those words. Thank God, no such remark would be possible as applied to England. God grant that it might never be so! That was not the place or the occasion to speak of Mr. Darwin's position and merits as a man of science. Time alone could try the real strength of a reputation. It was sufficient to observe that, beyond all doubt and question, Mr. Darwin had been the means of producing a greater change in the current of thought on certain subjects than any other man. That he did by means perfectly legitimate. He observed nature with a strength of purpose, pertinacity, honesty, and ingenuity which had never been surpassed, and upon his observations he based his hypotheses and theories. He was fully within his right in doing so, and time would test the correctness of his conclusions—some might become established, some might, like certain theories of other great intellects, prove to be untenable. The men who thought that the progress of science involved danger to truth need not be overanxious or unhappy; for speculations, unless they contained truth, would never be long-lived; and if they did contain truth, then they had in them a life which nothing could destroy, and with which no wise man would wish to interfere. There was much they might all learn from the examples Mr. Darwin gave them of the duties of life. How admirable was his devotion to the one great work of his life! He gave himself to the study of nature with his whole heart and soul and strength. In a coarse, worldly sense, he had nothing to gain by it. His work seemed to give him not only labour, but suffering, and his first great scientific journey was said to have entailed weakness of health throughout his life. His views concerning evolution gave rise to more excitement and caused

more alarm than perhaps any theories that were ever before propagated, yet his temper was never moved, and he never appeared before the public as one who felt aggrieved. Although many had used his theories as a means of attacking religion, yet he believed Mr. Darwin never meant them to be so used. He believed such attacks had not his sympathy, and that they were contrary to his most solemn conviction. He was a simple-hearted, truth-loving man, and he had now gone to his rest. His grave had received every honour that an English grave could receive, and he had endeavoured to speak respectfully of him. But there must be for a long time to come connected with his name, not merely the thought of the remarkable scientific epoch he had opened, but also of the intense emphasis given to the question as to the relation in which natural science stands to religious faith. That was no new question, and as it was impossible to answer such questions in a few sentences, he would simply remind all thinking men and women not only that religion rested upon foundations which no physical discoveries could impair, but also that positive knowledge and religious belief were not antagonistic, but more properly supplemental the one to the other. He believed that such great intellects as were given to Newton and Darwin were given for the purpose of being applied to the examination of the universe which God, who gave the intellect, had also created and made. He could not understand the man who did not rejoice when he realised the great steps that man had made towards comprehending the secrets of that wonderful creation of which he was the crown. But if he was told that because Newton discovered gravitation therefore he could dispense with the Apostles' Creed, or that because of the theories of Darwin he might burn his Bible, he rejected the conclusion not only as illogical and monstrous, but as contradicting a voice within him which had as much right to be heard as the most logical understanding. He rejected the conclusion because he was certain that to accept it, or anything like it, would be to permit himself to be despoiled and beggared beyond description. He had a moral nature which was as much and truly a fact as his intellect. He believed God had recognised that side of his nature by taking human flesh and becoming man. Let no man try to deprive him of that blessed truth, for those who lived upon it believed that without it they would be hopelessly, pitilessly poor. If the world-wide fame of such men as Newton and Darwin made them wonder at their princely intellects; if by the tribute of a nation's homage they bore testimony to their greatness and thanked God for his mighty gifts, and if they felt that mankind in general, and their own dear land in particular, was enlightened and glorified by the possession of such men, let them also be reminded by their return to dust that they needed some knowledge which even men so gifted could not give. No human light could illuminate the other side of the grave, for the knowledge which men's souls required was only "complete in Him" whom God had given to the world.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

On Wednesday the annual meetings of the above Society were held—that of the Council in the afternoon, at the Cannon-street Hotel, and that in the evening at the Metropolitan Tabernacle.

Mr. H. R. ELLINGTON, the chairman at the first-named meeting, read a letter from Mr. Alfred Illingworth, M.P., who stated that business in the House, in which the Society had an interest, prevented his attendance at the meeting. He added, "It is my conviction that what is taking place within the Church is only what was anticipated by our late friend and leader, Mr. Miall; and the dissatisfaction at the restraint complained of in all sections of the Establishment is only the vehicle of the demands which will lead up to the great consummation we have in view—viz., the liberation of the Church from State patronage and control." (Hear, hear.) The Chairman then spoke of the Bill of Mr. Stanhope on Church patronage, and said that the main defect in the measure was that it dealt only with next presentations, and failed to touch advowsons. The Society could not see that there was any material difference between presenting to cure of souls in perpetuity and the presentation of any particular minister. The religious censuses which had been recently taken proved most embarrassing to those who maintained that the Church of England was the Church of the majority, for nothing was more clearly proved in both England and Scotland than that those ecclesiastical institutions were being kept up for the benefit of the minority of the population. It was due to the clergy to note that some of them had loyally accepted the principle of the Burials Bill, and he hoped that that example would be universally followed.

Mr. SIDNEY ROBJOHNS then read the report, which stated that the Society had distributed during the last year about a million and a half of publications, and had held 398 meetings. Among the unusual number of legislative measures dealing with the interests and position of the Church Establishment was a Bill introduced by Mr. H. Richard, to simplify the law with respect to interments in cemeteries, which would remove many anomalies in the existing Burial Acts, lighten the burdens on ratepayers, and facilitate the work of Burial Boards. There was also a Bill introduced by Mr. Brinton, to reduce and equalise burial fees, and to abolish the payment of such fees except for services actually rendered. A Select Committee had also been appointed to examine into the operation of the law of burial fees, from which good results might be anticipated. The Committee reported, with great satisfaction, that during the year the principle of religious equality had had an important extension in its application to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The new statutes framed by the Univeraities Commissioners went far to abolish clerical restrictions; and, speaking generally, the offices, honours, and emoluments of the Universities and Colleges would in future be conferred without reference to ecclesiatical distinctions. The three Bills before Parliament dealing with the ecclesiastical and charitable endowments of London proposed to take property which belonged to the public at large, and to devote it afresh to sectarian purposes. On the subject of Church patronage, the report stated that Mr. Stanhope's Bill only touched the fringe of the evil, and gave fresh legislative sanction to the rest. The Society opposed that Bill, but supported the measure prohibiting generally the sale both of advowsons and next presentations. The Lord Chancellor's Augmentation of Benefices Bill was open to similar objections. The Committee declared their belief that it will be impossible effectually to secure Church reform until by Disestablishment the Church gained the power of self-government. In regard to the Disestablishment of the Scotch Church, it was urged that steps in support of Mr. Peddie's motion should be taken throughout Scotland by means of petitions, &c. At home the tension in the Establishment caused by the conflicting views of the different parties within it had rather increased than diminished during the last twelve months. The decision in Mr. Mackonochie's case and the failure to obtain the release of Mr. Green from prison had made a deep impression on the minds of those who were already chafing under the yoke of the Establishment. The result had been that the principle of spiritual independence had been increasingly dwelt upon by the members of the English Church, and they were slowly coming to see that for its sake all the perils of Disestablishment and Disendowment might be safely encountered. The tendency of public opinion in favour of Disestablishment had been strengthened by the disclosures of the recent censuses taken by local newspapers.

The report having been adopted, a series of resolutions were submitted, urging the necessity of *supplementing the Burial Act of* 1880 *by further legislation*, expressing gratification at the provision in the new statutes of the Universities' Commissioners for the abolition of clerical restrictions in connection with the headships of the Oxford and Cambridge colleges; approving Mr. Peddie's motion relative to the early Disestablishment of the Church of Scotland; and contending that the Parliamentary oath should be optional, an equivalent declaration being provided.

At the evening meeting held at the Metropolitan Tabernacle a letter was read from Mr. Spurgeon, expressing regret at his absence through illness, and the hope that the "dishonourable connection" which existed between the Church and State would soon come to an end. He concluded by wishing more power to those who would "establish" the Church by "Disestablishing her and endow her by disendowing her."

Mr. J. CARVELL WILLIAMS moved the first resolution, expressing gratification at the further progress made during the past year towards the attainment of religious equality at home and in the colonies, as well as at the growth of public opinion on the question of disestablishment. He commenced his remarks by alluding to the activity on the part of the society in holding meetings and circulating its literature. The sympathisers with Mr. Green had memorialised Mr. Gladstone—(loud cheers)—to gain his release, but the key was inside. The martyr was there for defying the legal tribunals, and must not, therefore, expect to be released from his incarceration unless he was prepared to obey the powers that be. Through the agitation on the tithe question the farmers had assisted the society by raising the question whether the tithes should not be applied to the relief of local burdens, and even their broad lands had become a trouble to the Church. He then passed in review the various Bills before Parliament, and stated that the City Parochial Charities Bill and the Bill to facilitate the removal of the empty City churches and to apply the proceeds to building suburban churches were measures of great importance to them all.

The Rev. Dr. CONDER, of Leeds, seconded the motion.

Mr. HENRY BROADHURST, M.P., in supporting it, said that the Church had neglected its duty, betrayed its trust, and was not deserving of the support of the working classes. From the numerous Bills before Parliament to shore up the Church they might conclude that its days were numbered. (Cheers.) The motion having been unanimously agreed to,

The Rev. Principal CAIRNS, D.D., moved the second resolution, which was:—

The meeting warmly approves of the motion of which notice has been given by Mr. Dick Peddie, M.P., affirming that a measure for the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church of Scotland should be passed at an early period, and trusts that the motion will be heartily supported by the Liberal party in the House of Commons.

He could not, he said, see why one religious sect should monopolise the endowments to the exclusion of the rest. The Established Church of Scotland, in the present divided state of the country, instead of being an advantage was an injury to national religion. He hoped to see the zeal and earnestness of their Scottish representatives called forth on the great question. It was a question that belonged to the Liberal party, and it was to that party that Scotland appealed that had for its heads Mr. William Gladstone and John Bright, for which they were thankful to God. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. ILLINGWORTH, M.P., seconded the resolution, which was agreed to.

On the motion of the Rev. JOHN BROWNE, B.A., the following resolution was also carried:—

The meeting, while sympathising with Episcopalians in their desire for greater liberty, and for the removal of evils which now restrict the usefulness of the Church, is of opinion that that liberty cannot be enjoyed, and those evils cannot be effectually cured, until the Church ceases to be established by law, and becomes a self-supported and self-governed religious community.

THE MAY MEETINGS.

The Archbishop of Canterbury presided on Friday afternoon at the celebration of the 131st anniversary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, which took place in the large room of Exeter Hall. There was a very numerous attendance of ladies and gentlemen, and upon the platform were Bishop Short (of Adelaide), Bishop Perry (late of Melbourne), the Bishop of Ballarat, the Bishop of Antigua, Sir Bryan Robinson, Sir Alexander Galt, General Maclagan, General Tremenheere, General Nicolls, Colonel Gillilan, and Archdeacon Blomfield. The committee's report for 1881 stated that they had received a gross total on account of the year of £134,978, under the following heads:—General fund at the disposal of the Society, collections, subscriptions, &c., £75,119; legacies, £5,420; and rents, dividends, &c., £4,168; appropriated funds to be applied at the discretion of the Society, for the benefit of the objects named by the donors £10,626, making the total income of the Society £95,335. The special funds, to be transmitted by the Society to the individuals or missions specified by the donors amounted to £36,643. The Primate, in alluding to the report, which, he said, was most interesting, stated that the income had greatly increased and the legacies had decreased. Of that he was very glad, for the legacies came from persons who left money at their deaths, whereas it was far more satisfactory to receive the support of friends while they were alive. They had to thank God and take courage for the progress which had been made by the Society. In 1795 two schoolmasters were sent out by the Society to Australia, but now what was the state of things? There were now three Australian Bishops present, each presiding over an important and flourishing diocese. In mentioning the Australian Bishops, he was reminded that they very often heard most unworthy remarks as to how it was that so many colonial Bishops found their way to England. They would, he thought, scarcely grudge it to his friend Bishop Perry, after twenty years' assiduous labour, if he should devolve the work in which he had so long been engaged to other hands. And his venerable friend, Bishop Short, might well be excused if, in his 80th year, having laboured since 1847, he should come back to the friends of his early days. It would be but small encouragement to those who had devoted their best energies to the spread of the Gospel if a few years' rest after long and laborious work were begrudged them. It was a pleasure to think that there was a desire on the part of lay officials to keep up a connection with the mother country; and he could easily believe that a missionary Bishop in the vigour of his life might well think that he could better perform his duty if he from time to time came back to refresh himself with the sight of the work which was being done at home, and to carry to his distant diocese information and a call to energy such as was scarcely to be obtained otherwise than by visiting the mother country. His Grace then alluded with regret to the loss suffered by the death of the Bishop of Sydney. The present was a most important time in the history of the colonial Churches. There were now vacant the bishoprics of Sydney and Adelaide, and a new bishopric was about to be founded in Australia by the name of Riverina. The bishopric of Tasmania was also vacant, and he prayed that the men who went out to those Sees might be of similar energy and like-minded to those who had preceded them. They were also sending out a new Bishop to Rangoon. Very great advantage arose from the missionary Sees being filled by missionaries trained on the spot. To Africa and India two Bishops of the medical profession were to be sent. There was a vacant bishopric at Sierra Leone, and arrangements were being made for a bishopric in Japan. His Grace concluded by wishing God's blessing upon the work of the Society. The report having been adopted, addresses were delivered by Sir Alexander Galt, Canons Wilkinson and Gregory, the Bishop of Ballarat, and others, and the meeting passed a vote of thanks to the president.

Lord Shaftesbury presided at the 78th annual meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society, which was held in Exeter Hall. His Lordship was supported by the Bishops of Gloucester and Bristol, Lincoln, St. Asaph, Bath and Wells, and Bishops Perry, Ryan, Nelson, Crowther; Lord Cottesloe, Lord Fortescue, Sir Bartle Frere, Sir Charles Lowther, Sir William Muir, Sir J. H. Kennaway, M.P., Mr. T. Fry, M.P., and others. The report, submitted by the Rev. J. Sharp, showed that, notwithstanding the intense eagerness with which the Revised New Testament in English was expected and welcomed, the home issues of Holy Scripture by the Society had been 9,200, and the foreign issues had been 83,300, more than last year. The Testaments called for at home had been only 38,000 fewer, those called for abroad had been 39,000 more this year than last. And the whole demand for Testaments in every tongue had again not fallen far short of a million. Understanding by copies Bibles, Testaments, and portions taken together, the total issues at home had been 1,509,000, and those abroad 1,429,000; in all 2,938,000 copies, or nearly 10,000 a day for the working days of a year. And these figures brought up the Bibles, Testaments, and portions supplied by the Society since its formation to 93,953,000 copies. The income, which looked somewhat less than last year, had been generous and large. The free income had been £104,837—less than that of the previous year by £9,500. But that diminution meant nothing more serious than the temporary absence of a portion of the frequent princely donations. Of the decrease, £7,200 occurred in such donations, and the falling off in ordinary contributions was only £1,300. The sum received for Scriptures sold was £94,842, or only £173 less than in the year before. And, adding the Roxburgh Fund for colportage in North India, the total receipts were £199,785. The total expenditure had been £190,738, or nearly £700 in excess of that announced a year ago. The committee had during the year taken steps considerably to extend their liabilities in India, and China, and Persia, and Japan. They had added two new agencies—one for North Africa and one for Malaysia, to their list, and asked for an agent for Siberia. They were arranging for work in Cuba and elsewhere. A colporteur had again entered Turkestan. Besides all that it did at home, and through others, the society had a missionary post of its own. It spread about 300 colporteurs over Europe, and sent 200 more to other parts of the world. The sales of Scriptures by those men were more than 600,000 copies a year. The report after giving a detailed account of the work of the Society in France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Turkey, and Africa, thus concluded:—"The revision of a version of the Holy Scriptures is a matter with which your committee have often to deal, and in which they always take the deepest interest. In no revision is that interest deeper than in that of the English version, of which the New Testament has been published since your last anniversary. But inasmuch as the large constituency which they represent is divided in its views upon the part already published, and the work is still incomplete, your committee have decided that the time has not yet come for discussing with advantage at a general meeting of the Society any modification of the rule which limits its circulation in the languages of the United Kingdom to the Authorised Version." The Bishop of Bath and Wells, saying that the operations of the Society had been invariably a beneficent work and a diffuser of good, moved the adoption of the report, which was carried.

The annual meeting of the friends of the London City Mission was held on Thursday morning at Exeter Hall, Mr. Joseph Hoare in the chair. The report stated that the total number of missionaries belonging to the mission was 450, the number of visits and calls paid 3,171,678. Bibles, Testaments, and portions distributed, 18,199; religious tracts distributed, 3,925,638; persons visited or conversed with in factories, &c., 23,473, and readings of Scripture in visitation, 814,069. The receipts for the past year had been £47,059, and the total expenditure £50,453. —The Bishop of Liverpool, in moving the adoption of the report, said the condition of the population of our great cities throughout the land was one of the greatest problems which the present generation had to solve. No one could walk up and down some parts of our great cities on Sundays without seeing that there were thousands of persons who to all appearance had got no religion at all. He hoped that every one in the hall would resist to the utmost of their ability the attempt to break down the sanctity of the Sabbath. God grant, he said, that our English Sabbath should never become a Continental Sabbath, and that London should never become as Paris, as Vienna, or as Berlin. He trusted that they would all use every effort to prevent our museums and places of amusement being opened on Sunday. They should not listen to the specious arguments that the working classes wanted to go to those places on Sunday, and he did not believe they would go to them if they were opened. He hoped that the time would come when the grand movement for the Sunday closing of all places where drink was sold would be successful. With regard to the Salvation Army, he was glad at the work which was being done by General Booth and his officers. Much was done by General Booth of which he did not approve, but, after all, it was only a question of taste, and if the efforts of the Salvation Army turned men and women from a life of sin, he would much rather that they should be saved in that way than they should not be saved at all. The Rev. Colmer Symes seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

On Monday the annual meeting of the Wesleyan Missionary Society was held at Exeter Hall, Mr. H. J. Atkinson, J.P., in the chair. The report stated that, apart from the continuance of straitened means, their mission work had seldom presented so many encouraging signs of advancement as had marked the history of the past year. Their brethren in Ireland were working against the heavy impediments of political uncertainty and social disquietude. By attending to their own work, and to that only, they were winning noiseless triumphs for the Gospel. Whatever else might be cheerless in Ireland, there was a bright track of success following the course of Evangelical churches in the sister island. The work in foreign countries, on the whole, was most encouraging. During the year the Mission Home donations amounted to £4,100 11s. 6d.; the Home districts to £81,367 13s. 2d.; the Christmas offering to £7,433 11s. 4d.; and juvenile associations to £9,772 18s. 7d.; and with other donations the total Home receipts amounted to £117,767 2s. 9d. That, with foreign receipts and other amounts, made a total income of £151,797 14s. 7d. The general expenditure was £145,454 18s.; on account of special missions, &c.; £1,299 3s. 1d.; and, after deducting the ordinary receipts for the year, there was a deficiency of £5,031 2s. 6d. To this amount must be added the debt of 1880, £38,310 7s. 5d., and that, with the less amount received from the Thanksgiving Fund, left a total deficiency of £33,366 13s. 11d.

At St. James's Hall, on Thursday afternoon, the annual meeting of the Church Pastoral-Aid Society was held under the presidency of the Earl of Shaftesbury. From the statement of the Secretary it appeared that the income for the past year had been £55,659, showing an increase of £7,110 on the previous year. The expenditure had been £46,542. There were now more than 100 applications for aid, to none of which could the Society respond for want of funds. During the year six new grants had, under special circumstances, been made, and six revived. Sixteen grants had lapsed. The population benefited amounted to more than four and a-half millions. Within the metropolitan circle there were sixty-three grants for curates and thirty-one lay agents, benefiting a population of 750,270 at a cost of £6,905. Since the institution of the Society 2,261 grants had been made. The Rev. Canon Hoare, in moving the adoption of the report, regretted that at present the Society stood still, instead of going forward, for want of increased funds.

In connection with the annual meeting of the Sunday School Union, a gathering for prayer and praise was held on Thursday morning, followed by a conference under the presidency of Mr. W. Woodall, M.P., when Mr. Thomas Walker read a paper on "The Sunday School in Relation to the Attendance on Public Worship." At Exeter Hall in the evening Mr. George Williams presided over the annual meeting, the large hall being crowded. The 79th annual report set forth that the committee were not able to record so brilliant a career as last year. A second missionary had been employed for France in connection with the Sunday School Mission, and the same movement was carried on in Switzerland. In German Switzerland there were 900 Sunday schools, with 60,000 Protestant children. The work of the Union in Germany, Wiesbaden, Holland, Austria, Hungary, and Norway and Sweden is bearing good fruit. Mr. Hugh Mason, M.P., had accepted the office of president for 1883. There were now in the Union 4,868 schools, 118,450 teachers, and 1,114,343 scholars, an increase during the year of 114 schools, 3,360 teachers, and 34,212 scholars. The scholars in the London auxiliaries have increased by 6,060 during the year. After a few remarks from the Chairman, the Rev. G. Buchanan Ryley, of Peckham, discoursed on the topic of "Child piety and youthful discipleship." The Rev. J. P. Chown (Bloomsbury) spoke of "Earnestness and the teachers' consecration," and gave much practical information, after which Mr. Henry Richard, M.P., spoke on "The Gospel of Peace."

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. O. J. Dunn, Curate of St. James's, Wolverhampton, Vicarage of All Saints, Wolverhampton. Patron, the Bishop of Lichfield.

Rev. C. Farrow, Vicar of Tong, to Ministry or Curacy of the Church of St. John, Tong-street, Tong.

Rev. E. P. Hathaway, to Vicarage of St. Andrew-the-Less, Clifton.

Rev. J. Hawker, Minister of Portland Chapel, Bath, to Rectory of Cotleigh. Patron, Lady Ashburton.

Rev. P. Hill, to Vicarage of Great Cornard, Essex.

Rev. W. T. Hollins, to Rectory of St. Peter's, Bristol.

Rev. A. G. Kingsford, to Vicarage of Atcham. Patrons, the Hon. R. C. Herbert, of Orleton, Salop, and another.

Rev. J. M. Lakin, to Rectory of Brookesby.

Rev. A. O. Medd, Rector of Amble, to Vicarage of Bamburgh. Patrons, the late Lord Crewe's Trustees.

Rev. J. Mulkerns, to Perpetual Curacy of Wessington. Patron, the Vicar of Crich.

Rev. W. Reade, Curate-in-Charge of Barkstone, to Vicarage of Marton. Patron, the Bishop of Lincoln.

Rev. G. H. Statham, to be Curate-in-Charge of Upton Heilions.

Rev. F. T. Tayler, Rector of Langford, to Rectory of Little Baddow. Patron, Lord Rayleigh.

Right Rev. Dr. Tufnell, Vicar of Croydon, and formerly Bishop of Brisbane, to be Residentiary-Canon in Chichester Cathedral. Patron, the Bishop.

Rev. C. J. Vaughan, Dean of Llandaff, and Master of the Temple (London), to be Deputy Clerk of the Closet in Ordinary to Her Majesty.

Rev. E. F. Wanstall, Vicar of St. George's, Wellington, to Vicarage of St. Paul's, Wolverhampton. Patron, the Bishop of Lichfield.

LICENCE TO CURACY BY THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY:—Rev. W. Highmoor, to St. Martin, Salisbury.

OBITUARY.

May 2, at Barking, Essex, Henry Whitburn, aged 60.

May 2, at Southend, Essex, the Rev. Congreve Selwyn, Vicar of Haggerston, aged 43.

May 2, at West Leake Rectory, the Rev. John Bateman, for 46 years Rector of East and West Leake, Notts, aged 82.

February 21, by Lake Nyassa, the Rev. Charles Albert Janson, M.A., of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa, youngest son of the late William Janson, Esq., aged 32.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

A special service will be held in Westminster Abbey at three o'clock on Ascension Day, when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. Canon Barry on behalf of the National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church.

The Bishop of Winchester has left Bournemouth. His address until Whitsuntide will be 32, Portland-place, W.

Lord Rayleigh has appointed the Rev. T. T. Tayler, rector of Langford, Essex, to the living of Little Baddow, vacant by the death of Archdeacon Ady.

We regret to state that the Archdeacon of London (Bishop Claughton) will, in consequence of illness, be unable to be present at the visitation appointed for the 16th inst. The clergy, therefore, will not be cited to attend. The churchwardens will attend and be admitted by the official of the archdeacon.

We understand that the Superior of the Community of St. John Baptist, at Clewer, has been again requested to send more Sisters to India to nurse in the hospitals at Calcutta, and to take charge of an old-established native school in the same diocese. In addition to those previously sent, two Sisters are now on their way to India, and the Community would gladly welcome accessions to the Sisterhood, whether for foreign service or to assist in their many charitable labours at home.

The *St. Albans Times* states that, according to the last report, upwards of £900 of the requisite £1,000 for a Suffragan Bishop for the diocese of St. Albans had been guaranteed.

The Rochester Diocesan Conference is to meet at St. Saviour's, Southwark, on the 25th inst. The following is the programme:—9 a.m., celebration of Holy Communion; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., business of Conference, reports of committees, new motions; 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., luncheon; 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., the Bishop's scheme for building ten new churches in South London; 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., remainder of new motions.

The preachers in the Chapel Royal, Savoy, for May are as follows:—7th, morning, the Dean of the Chapel Royal, Dublin Castle; afternoon (4.0.), Canon Knox-Little (for Church Penitentiary Association); evening, the Rev. C. H. Middleton-Wake, assistant-chaplain. 14th, morning, the Rev. Henry White; evening, the Rev. Henry Shrimpton, vicar of All Saints, Stoke Newington. 21st, morning, the Rev. Henry White; evening, the Rev. F. J. Ponsonby, vicar of St. Mary Magdalene's, Munster-square. 28th, morning and evening, the Rev. Henry White.

On Monday, the Feast of SS. Philip and James, the Archbishop of Canterbury consecrated, at the chapel of Lambeth Palace, the Rev. John Miller Strachan, M.D., and the Rev. Herbert Bree, D.D., to the vacant bishoprics of Rangoon and Barbadoes, vacant by the respective resignations of Bishop Titcomb (owing to the effects of a fall), and of Bishop Mitchinson, who is to help the Bishop of Peterborough. Canon Bailey, vicar of Tarring, formerly Warden of St. Augustine's, Canterbury, was the preacher, his text being St. John xvii. 3. The Bishops of London, Winchester, Ely, Antigua, and Bishop Mitchinson assisted the Primate. His Grace afterwards entertained a hundred persons, mostly the newly consecrated Bishops' friends, at luncheon.

Mr. Hose is one of the oldest and most venerated clergymen in the diocese of Ely. He took his degree in 1830, and was ordained the same year, receiving his nomination from the Rev. Charles Simeon, the well-known Cambridge divine, with whom he laboured for six years as curate. He was presented to the rectory of Dunstable by the Lord Chancellor in 1845, and is well known in his parish and neighbourhood as an able and painstaking pastor. He has devoted great energy, with excellent taste and judgment, to the restoration of the fine old priory church of Dunstable, which is one of the architectural gems of the diocese. Mr. Hose was requested to preach the funeral sermon of his old friend Sir Richard Gilpin, on Sunday last, but was not able to comply. He is now in his eightieth year. In August of last year his son was consecrated Bishop of Singapore. On the 11th ult. the South Beds Clerical Society presented to him a very handsome gold watch, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the S. Beds Clerical Society, to their founder, Rev. Frederick Hose, M.A., R.D., April 11th, 1882—'Parvum non parvæ amicitiæ pignus.'" The meeting of the society was held at Flitwick Vicarage. The presentation was made by the Rev. Edward Bradshaw, rector of Billington.—*Guardian.*

A most pleasing and effective two-light window, the gift of Frances Lady Hawke, has lately been erected in the church, Womersley, Yorkshire. One light represents an angel leading a little child along the narrow path of righteousness, and pointing to a cross in the distance, and the other contains the angel carrying the child to heaven. The pose of the figures, as also the graceful folds of the drapery, indicate the touch of a very superior artist, while the expressions of the faces are all that can be desired. The colours, also, which are rich and deep, are exceedingly well chosen, and render the work a decided success. The window is from the studios of Messrs. Mayer and Co.

The Bishop of London has issued the following Pastoral:—

Right Rev. and Dear Brother,—At the suggestion of his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, I desire to call the attention of my brethren, the Bishops of this province, and through them, of the clergy of their dioceses, to the approach of the days of special intercession for the unity of Christ's Church and the cause of Christian missions throughout the world. Objections have been expressed so frequently of late to the suitableness of the season suggested at the Lambeth Conference, that some uncertainty seems to prevail whether that season is still to be observed or not. I would give no opinion as to the expediency of any alteration; nor is it probable that any season would meet with universal approbation. But no alteration has as yet been made; the time selected is still the Tuesday before Ascension Day (being a Rogation Day), or any of the seven days after that Tuesday; and it is most desirable, even at the cost of some inconvenience, that our intercession for unity should, as far as possible, be that of the whole Church, and that the prayers of all Anglican Christendom should be offered in that agreement to which the Saviour's special promise is made, for a larger outpouring of the Divine blessing on the Church's efforts for the conversion of the heathen abroad, and of our own untaught and erring myriads at home.—I am, your faithful Brother in Christ, J. London.

The church-room of St. Mark's, North Audley-street, has just been the scene of a most interesting ceremony. The past and present teachers of the day and Sunday-schools, together with other workers connected with St. Mark's parish, had long wished to bestow on the vicar, the Rev. J. W. Ayre, some token of their deep regard and high appreciation for his earnest and untiring labours amongst them for now over thirty years. It was decided that a bust would be the most lasting testimony of what has been the self-denying work of a lifetime in the service of the Church, and Mr. Frank Theed, the well-known sculptor, was deputed to carry out this design, in which he has most admirably succeeded. The ceremony on the afternoon of the dedication festival was the unveiling and presentation of this bust. At 4.30, the time arranged for the ceremony, the churchroom was filled with the friends of the vicar, past and present teachers in the day and Sunday schools, clergy now and formerly connected with the parish, and amongst whom were the Revs. Canon Broughton, Andrew Jukes, A. F. Forbes, Hon. W. Byron, A. R. Goodacre, R. B. Dowling, H. F. Nixon, W. Weller, and J. Bent. After a short address had been read by Mr. Gwilliam, the representative of the teachers, the bust was unveiled by the Hon. Mary Chetwynd, one of the oldest workers in the parish, and formally presented to the vicar. The vicar suitably acknowledged the kind gift.

A new church, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, has been consecrated in the parish of Charfield, Gloucestershire, by the Bishop of the diocese. The old church, dedicated to St. James, had become very dilapidated, and is most inconveniently situated for the majority of the people, the population having increased considerably since the railway has passed through the parish. A new church was therefore much needed, and there was much rejoicing on the completion of the work. The building is in the Early English style, and is much admired, the Bishop stating that "he had never consecrated a country parish church upon which he looked with greater satisfaction, and that he hoped it would be taken as a kind of model for churches in parishes of a similar size." The architect is Mr. W. Wood Bethell, of 7, Queen Anne's-gate, Westminster. The church accommodates 260 persons, and its cost has been under £2,400.

At the primary visitation of the Archdeacon of Warrington, in the Church of St. Saviour, Liverpool, there was a large gathering of churchwardens and sidesmen. The Ven. J. W. Bardsley commenced by a feeling allusion to the labours of the Archdeacon of Liverpool (from whose archdeaconry his was taken), and said that when Mr. Jones, who is now more than 90 years of age, began his labours, men's minds were occupied with the great victory on the plains of Waterloo, and the introduction of steam power on the Mersey. He approved Mr. Stanhope's Church Patronage Bill, regretted that Lord Beauchamp's Bill, which would have released Mr. Green, had not become law through the mischievous interference of the member for Scarborough, and deprecated the Churchwardens' Admission Bill as tending to diminish the value of visitations. He pointed out to the churchwardens the importance of their regular attendance at church, and their endeavour to induce the parishioners, in accordance with the 90th Canon, to attend church.

It is proposed to enlarge the parish church at Sidcup, Kent, to meet the requirements of the fast increasing population. This will be done by building a new chancel and removing the organ and choir from their present positions, by which accommodation will be afforded for 160 additional worshippers. The cost of enlargement is estimated at about £1,800, which the Rev. C. T. Lewis, the vicar, has offered to advance upon the understanding that arrangements be made for reimbursing him the amount.

On Saturday evening the Bishop of Liverpool opened a mission-room in the parish of St. Nathaniel Windsor, one of the best worked of the Liverpool Evangelical churches. The Bishop has addressed a letter to the Liverpool papers denying a statement that he had refused to preach at St. Margaret's, Aufield, or any other church except when he had a previous engagement.

News has been received by telegraph from Zanzibar of the death of the Rev. Charles Albert Janson, M.A., University College, Oxford, a member of the Universities Mission to Central Africa. Mr. Janson, who was formerly at SS. Philip and James, Oxford, died near Lake Nyassa (at Kungoi) on Shrove Tuesday last. This is the nineteenth death among the members of this mission.

LAW PROCEEDINGS.

In the Common Pleas Division on Thursday, before Mr. Justice Grove and Mr. Justice Lopes, in the case of Day *v.* Butt, Mr. Willis Bund said this was a proceeding instituted by the Bishop of St. Albans against the vicar of Buntingford, in Hertfordshire, under the Church Discipline Act, and his present application was for a rule calling upon the Bishop and the plaintiff, who was his secretary, to show cause why a writ of prohibition should not issue to prevent all further proceedings in the suit. The rule was asked for upon three grounds. First, with regard to irregularities and excess of jurisdiction on the part of the Commissioners, who heard the first proceeding under the Act. Secondly, because the Bishop had such an interest in the matter that he was incapacitated from hearing it; and thirdly, because the proceedings were irregular under the Church Discipline Act, and were contrary to the statute of Henry VIII. The proceedings had been instituted against the clergyman on account of alleged drunkenness, and on charges of frequenting taverns, and of making use of improper language. The learned counsel said that he had an affidavit of the defendant's in which he denied the charges made against him. He also referred to the statutes and contended that the proceedings had not been in accordance with them. The interest which, he submitted, incapacitated the Bishop from proceeding was that he, during the suspension of the clergyman, would be entitled to the profits of the benefice. Rule granted.

In the Queen's Bench Division on Monday, before Lord Coleridge and Mr. Justice Grove, in the case of M'Laughlin and others, the Salvation Army, Mr. Lankester applied on behalf of the defendants for a rule calling on the magistrates of Kingsclere, Hants, and the chief constable, to show cause why they should not state a case for the opinion of this Court. He appeared on the affidavit of the solicitor who applied to the committing magistrates with a written application from the prisoners for the justices to state a case, which, however, they refused. The four prisoners were convicted of an assault on the police in the execution of their duty. The prisoners were members of the Salvation Army. A notice had been posted in the district purporting to be signed by the chief constable, forbidding the meeting. The members of the Salvation Army attempted to form a procession on Sunday, the 23rd April, outside the meeting-house, but the police came up immediately and attempted to disperse them. It was admitted before the magistrates that the defendants only used such violence in resisting the police as they were justified in doing in asserting a legal right to do what they proposed. What they wished now to raise was the question whether they had a right to hold the procession or not and parade the public streets, as had been done in other parts of the country. After hearing the case the magistrates said the question was one of law and not of facts. There was reason to suppose that a breach of the peace would take place not by the defendants, but by others who objected to their proceedings, and notice had been given that the police would not allow the procession to take place. The leaders of the Army admitted that they know of the notice, and that as soon as it came to their knowledge they gave notice to the magistrates that the meeting would take place, as they wished to raise the point whether the Army had a right to parade in procession. The magistrates, after hearing the case, sentenced the four persons arrested to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for one month each. It was felt by the parties that the question as to the legality of these processions should be decided. He submitted that the magistrates had no discretion to state a case or not, but they had refused it on the ground that the point was frivolous. Lord Coleridge said that hard labour was ignominious. The defendants might be religious enthusiasts, but such sentences were not to be tolerated for one moment. When would the rule be made returnable? Mr. Lankester suggested Tuesday. Lord Coleridge: Let it be returnable in four days. Mr. Lankester asked that the men might be admitted to bail in the meantime. Lord Coleridge: Let the rule be returned peremptorily on Friday morning. Religious enthusiasts must know that they must obey the law. Rule granted accordingly.

The trial at Maidstone Assizes of Esther Pay, on the charge of wilfully drowning a little girl, named Georgina Moore, concluded on Saturday with a verdict of "Not Guilty."

The Court of Appeal on Thursday heard a case of the Rev. E. Henville, who had entered forcibly into the parish church of Shelland and the chapel of Gipping, of which he had been curate, after having been dismissed. Mr. Tyrrell, the owner, had obtained judgment in an action for trespass. The court dismissed the appeal without calling on Mr. Tyrrell's counsel.

Mr. H. Gardiner, of Bristol, recently wrote to the Lord Chancellor concerning certain acts of violence towards the Salvation Army at Crediton and other places. To this communication he has received the following reply:—"April 28, 1882.—Sir, I am directed by the Lord Chancellor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th inst. and to say that his Lordship very much regrets that a movement which he believes to be sincere and well-intended should be met with violence and disorder, and that his Lordship thinks the authorities ought everywhere to do their best to repress and punish such disorder. But his Lordship, on the other hand, thinks that the means of doing so may not in all places be sufficient, and that it is the duty of religious persons to avoid the prosecution of their objects in a manner which may give any unnecessary occasion for disorderly proceedings on the part of those who are opposed to them.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, Kenneth Muir Mackenzie, Principal Secretary.—Mr. H. Gardiner."

At the Birmingham Police-court on Thursday, Edward Beeton, 29, described as a draper, of Lady-pool-lane, Sparkbrook, was charged on remand with conspiring with J. Rogers to defraud Mr. John Lawrence of £1 12s. 6d. and £2 10s., between December 1, 1881, and March 1, 1882. Mr. Loxdale Warren, for the prosecution, undertook to establish a general charge against Beeton of conspiring with a person named Rogers and a person named Shakespeare to defraud numerous persons, and said he was also able to prove at least two charges of obtaining money by false pretences. It appeared from a diary found at the Birmingham offices of the "International Law Agency," the entries in which were in the handwriting of the prisoner, that from the commencement of the business on or about July 3, 1881, down to November last, the net profits, taking the receipts and expenditure into account, were divided equally between the prisoners Beeton and Rogers. The name of Shakespeare was entered with an amount set against it, which he appeared to have received, but no portion of the actual profits seemed to have been taken by him. In almost every page of the book there were entries showing the division of the profits thus—"Beeton, £5 2s. 1½d.," "Rogers, £5 2s. 1½d.," "Rogers, £8 18s. 3d.," "Beeton, £8 18s. 3d.," "Rogers, 7s. 7d.," "Beeton, 7s. 7d." Mr. Warren then proceeded to refer to a number of cases, already reported, of alleged imposition in which considerable sums had been obtained from different persons, professedly for searches, journeys, counsel's opinion, and legal documents, which would be shown to be mere pretences. Mr. Warren proposed to call evidence in support of these charges, but the stipendiary magistrate said it might be a saving of time to wait till they heard what the Public Prosecutor was going to do. He suggested that the case should at this stage be remanded for a week. After some further consideration, the Bench remanded the prisoner until Thursday next, with the understanding that he will be brought up then and further remanded until Wednesday, the 17th inst.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice, attended by the Lords and Ladies of the Court, are, by present arrangements, expected to leave Windsor Castle on Tuesday for Buckingham Palace. Her Majesty will hold a Drawing Room the same afternoon and on Thursday, and will return to Windsor Castle towards the close of the week.

Their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Christian, attended by Colonel and Mrs. Gordon, honoured Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Smith with their company at dinner on Wednesday evening. There were present to meet their Royal Highnesses the Marchioness of Salisbury and Lady Maud Cecil, Colonel and Lady Constance Stanley, Sir Matthew and Lady Ridley, Sir Stafford, Lady, and Miss Northcote, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Jeune, Lord Rowton, Lord Algernon Percy, Mr. Froude, Mr. Greenwood, and Mr. Arthur Balfour. In the evening Mrs. Smith had a reception.

The *Gazette* of Tuesday contained a notice that the Queen had conferred the Order of the Garter on the King of the Netherlands.

The Crown Princess of Würtemberg died very suddenly at half-past six o'clock on Sunday morning, at the residence of Prince William, her husband, at Ludwigsberg. The late Princess was the elder sister of the Duchess of Albany, as likewise of the Queen of the Netherlands, and her death has cast a gloom over the joyful celebrations held both at the English Court and at Waldeck-Pyrmont, in honour of the marriage of the Duke of Albany and Princess Helen. The King and Queen of the Netherlands and suite, as well as the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, had been expected on Sunday morning to attend Divine service at the Dutch Reformed Church, Austinfriars, and the church was filled at an early hour. A telegram was received in the course of the morning announcing the death of the Crown Princess of Würtemberg, and the consequent inability of the King and Queen or the Lord Mayor to attend. In his sermon the minister, the Reverend Adema van Scheltema, who preached in Dutch, dwelt on the sad event, and referred in eloquent terms to the sorrowful termination of a week which had commenced under such joyful circumstances both for the English and Dutch Royal Family. The service was brought to a termination by the performance of the "Dead March" in *Saul*. The Princess Georgina Henrietta Marie, who has, to the great grief of her family, and, indeed, of all who knew her, died from fever following childbirth, was born on May 23, 1857, and was married on February 15, 1877, to the Crown Prince William Charles Frederick of Würtemberg. In consequence of this sad event the Prince and Prince of Waldeck-Pyrmont, their family and suite, left London on Sunday morning by the boat express train of the Chatham and Dover Railway Company from Victoria Station, arriving at Dover at 11.55 a.m. They embarked at once on board the steamer *Samphire* and went to Calais, whence they travelled by train to Brussels. The Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Connaught, and the Duke of Teck accompanied the Prince and Princess of Waldeck to the Victoria Station.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Lady Frances Evelyn Bertie, daughter of Lord Abingdon, took the black veil on Wednesday at the Convent of the Visitation of the Holy Mary, at Westbury-on-Trym, Gloucestershire, in the presence of numerous relatives.

A gale of extreme violence raged on Saturday for some hours, especially in the South of England. Great numbers of trees were blown down and buildings were damaged, and at Shooter's-hill a man driving in a cart was killed by the fall of a tree.

Heavy thunderstorms on Wednesday burst over many parts of England, and much damage was done to the growing crops.

"KEATING'S POWDER" is now sold at 6d., 1s., and 2s. 6d., in tins by all Chemists. This powder is perfectly unrivalled in destroying Bugs, Fleas, Beetles, Moths, and all insects, whilst quite harmless, to domestic animals. All furs and woollens should be well powdered before putting away. Beware of imitations. Ask for Keating's Powder and take no other.

TO GET RID OF WORMS IN CHILDREN procure a tin of "Keating's Worm Tablets." This unique medicine is certain to cure, and may be taken with absolute safety by the youngest children. Price 1s. 1½d. of all Chemists.

An explosion of gas occurred on Monday night in a colliery at Morley, and seven bodies of men who were at work in the pit have been found.

A steam boiler burst on Monday at the Irwell Bleaching Works, Manchester. Two men were killed and several others were injured.

A fire broke out on Tuesday in a coal pit near Atherston, causing gas explosions. It is feared that seventeen lives have been lost, and nearly thirty men are more or less seriously injured.

Mr. Thomas Scrutton, the ex-manager of the St. Paul's Industrial School, has resigned his seat at the London School Board. It is understood that Sir Edmund Hay Currie, who was vice-chairman of the Board from 1873 to 1876, will be nominated for the vacant seat, which is filled up by election at the Board itself, and not by the constituency.

Mr. Herbert Broom, LL.D., late Professor of Common Law to the Inns of Court, died on Tuesday, at his residence, The Priory, Orpington, Kent. The deceased, who was in his 68th year, was the only son of the late Mr. Herbert Broom, of Kidderminster, by his marriage with Rebecca, daughter of the late Mr. Richard Watson, of that town. Mr. Broom graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge, taking his bachelor's degree in 1837, and becoming LL.D. in 1864. He was called to the Bar by the Hon. Society of the Inner Temple in 1840, and held the professorship of Common Law to the Inns of Court for some years. He was the author of several well-known legal works, including one on *Legal Maxims*. Mr. Broom married in 1846 Ellen Thornthwaite, daughter of the late Mr. John Thomson, M.D., of Halifax, Yorkshire.

At a meeting of the Church and Stage Guild, held on Thursday in Neumeyer Hall, Mrs. Hallock read a paper on "The Possibilities of the Drama." In it she contended that children should while at school be to a certain extent educated by dramatic games conducted on the Kindergarten system, which would be much more interesting to them and more instructive than the present dull and dry method of teaching. All National and other schools ought also to devote much more time than they did at present to calisthenics and dancing, as it was extremely important that the cultivation of the body as well as of the mind should be carried out to its full extent. It was to the disgrace of the great Universities of this country — namely, Oxford and Cambridge—that dramatic performances were forbidden to their students. As to the argument that the instructive plays she recommended for adoption in schools would lead the minds of the children away from their other studies, she attached little importance to it, as if such a system were properly managed no such result could take place. Speaking of the drama itself, she thought the influence of the theatre was wider than that of any other occupation or profession, the Church itself not excepted. As a proof of the vitality of the stage she pointed to the abuse which had ever been levelled at it, and said that had any other institution suffered so much it certainly would not have been able to exist. The stage had not up to the present by any means reached its zenith, and she hoped that when the mists of prejudice against the histrionic art had cleared away it would become a grand and noble institution, rearing its head above all others in its influence for good. This, however, it would not be able to do until religious as well as secular drama was recognised as one of the functions of the stage. A discussion followed.

The old custom of keeping up May Day is not so much observed in London as it was in past times, but it is not yet abandoned. The chimney-sweepers in Westminster and other parts of the metropolis became "Jacks-in-the-Green," and the teams of horses owned by most of the large contractors and brewers in London were decorated in the usual way with coloured ribands. The occasion was celebrated on an extensive scale at Newcastle. A procession of horses and vehicles of all kinds and about five miles in length paraded the principal streets of the town. Among the animals were a number of pet ponies. Prizes, amounting in value to £200, were given by, among others, the Duke of Northumberland and Mr. Cowen, M.P., and were presented by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts in the course of the evening. Though the weather was showery with some thunder and lightning early in the afternoon, the usual display of horses and teams took place in Liverpool on Monday, and the turnout was considerably above the average. Several bands of music were in the processions, and the streets were crowded.

The Hon. Miss Cordelia Leigh, youngest daughter of Lord Leigh, on Tuesday narrowly escaped being drowned when boating with her governess and her brother, Mr. Dudley Leigh, on the river Avon, which winds round in front of Stoneleigh Abbey. Owing to the flooded state of the river and the strong current the boat was carried over a weir 15ft. in height, and was instantly smashed to pieces. Mr. Dudley Leigh and the governess reached the bank; but, to their consternation, Miss Leigh was missing. Their cries speedily brought assistance from the Abbey, and the steward, Mr. Steinton, noticing fragments of the wrecked boat floating down the river, rowed rapidly in pursuit. Fortunately he discovered Miss Leigh under water, borne down by a portion of the boat. When rescued she was greatly exhausted, but she is now reported to be progressing most satisfactorily.

SPECTACLES VERSUS BLINDNESS.—One-fourth of those suffering from blindness can trace their calamity to theuse of common spectacles or lenses imperfectly adapted to the sight. Mr. Henry Laurance, F.S.S., Oculist Optician, personally adapts his Improved Spectacles at his residence, 3, Endsleigh-gardens Euston-square, London, daily (Saturdays excepted) ten, to four Sir Julius Benedict writes:—"I have tried the principal Opticians in London without success, but your spectacles suit me admirably. The clearness of your glasses, as compared with others, is really surprising." Dr. Bird, Chelmsford, late Surgeon-Major, W.E.M., writes:—"I could not have believed it possible that my sight could have been so much improved and relieved at my age, 82. I can now read the smallest print, although suffering from cataract on the right eye." The Rev. Mother Abbess, St. Mary's Abbey, Hendon, says:—"The spectacles supplied to myself and several members of the Convent have given great satisfaction." Similar testimonials from John Woolcott, Esq., F.R.C.S., Founder of the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone; Ven. Archdeacon Palmer, Clifton; Lieutenant-General Macmillen, Brentwood; the Rev. Joseph Hargreaves, Uxbridge-road, and hundreds of others. Mr. Laurance's Pamphlet, "Spectacles, their Use and Abuse," post free.

Among the presents offered to the Duke of Albany some mention should be made of those which were given both to his Royal Highness and the Duchess of Albany by his Scotch friends. A sum of upwards of £1,000 was subscribed exclusively by Scotch noblemen and gentlemen; and at a meeting held at the Earl of Rosslyn's house in Carlton-gardens it was agreed to present a diamond star of the Order of the Thistle, with the motto in diamonds, and a silver candelabrum, representing "the Death of the Stag," beautifully modelled, to his Royal Highness the Duke of Albany; and to her Royal Highness the Duchess a pair of large single-stone diamond earrings (which her Royal Highness wore at her wedding), and a pendant in diamonds in the form of a thistle, thus typifying the affection and regard with which her Royal Highness will be welcomed in Scotland.

A correspondent of the *Times* writes from East Yorkshire:—"Farmers are sorely troubled concerning the heavy and almost incessant rains which have fallen for some days past. They are unable to get on the land to complete the sowing of spring corn, and much of the newly-sown land is under water. The wheat plant, which was full of promise three weeks ago, is everywhere assuming a yellow tint. The prospect is exceedingly bad."

In answer to inquiries as to the working of the Salvation Army, the Rev. William Booth, the "general," states the average expenses of the officers in London to be £43 each annually. The majors were married men and received £2 per week with house rent when in the field. The allowances for lieutenants were 18s. weekly, captains (single) 21s., (married), 27s., and 1s. per child. Lieutenants (women), 12s., captains (women) 15s. General Booth has never received anything out of the funds, and the profits of the *War Cry* go to the Army fund.

The wills of the following testators have been proved for the respective amounts of personalty undermentioned:—Mr. Henry Hutton, late of The Lawn, Colnbrook, Bucks, £114,000; Mr. Jonathan Openshaw, late of Waterloo-in-Bury and of Hothersoll Hall, Lancashire, over £83,000; the Rev. W. L. Tilson, late of Guildford, Surrey, £39,000; Mr. John Alfred Edmeades, late of Hazells, Northfleet, Kent, over £36,000; Miss Emma Howard, late of Norfolk House, Beulah-hill, Norwood, £30,000; Mr. Mark Milbank, J.P., D.L., late of Thorp Perrow, North Riding of Yorkshire, over £22,000; Mrs. Helen Frances Clifton, formerly of Ripple Rectory, Worcestershire, but late of Weston-super-Mare, over £21,000; and the Very Rev. George Henry Sacheverell Johnson, Dean of Wells, exceeding £4,000. Lieut.-Colonel George Poulett Cameron, C.B., Knight of the Tower and Sword of Portugal, and a Knight of the Order of the Conception of Portugal, late of Cheltenham, who died on February 12 last, has bequeathed to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland numerous war relics and articles of antiquity; and he has humbly requested that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will be graciously pleased to accept his Order of the Tower and Sword, formerly that of his late Majesty George IV.

The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher appears to be one of those numerous amateur husbandmen who farm for pleasure and not for profit. He has a farm of 36 acres on the Hudson River, and, according to Mark Twain, whom it would, perhaps, observes *Land*, be unsafe to accept as an authority, it is "fast raising him from affluence to poverty." All his agricultural operations are conducted on strictly scientific principles. The library of scientific farm-manuals, indeed, says Mark Twain, has cost more than the other farming implements. But, as Mr. Clemens remarks, book-farming has its drawbacks. Mr. Beecher raises some of the finest crops of wheat in the country, but the unfavourable difference between the cost of producing it and its market value after it is produced has interfered considerably with its success as a commercial enterprise. His special weakness is hogs, however. He considers hogs the best "game" a farm produces. He buys the original pig for 1dol. 50c. and feeds him with 40dols. worth of corn, and then sells him for about 9dols. This is the only crop he ever makes money on. He loses on his corn, but he makes 7dols. 50c. on the hog. He does not mind this, because he never expects to make anything on corn. And, any way it turns out, he has the excitement of raising the hog, whether he gets the worth of him or not. One of Mr. Beecher's most harassing difficulties in his farming operations arises from the close resemblance of different sorts of seeds and plants to each other. Two years ago his far-sightedness warned him that there was going to be a great scarcity of watermelons, and, therefore, he put in a crop of twenty-seven acres of that fruit. But when they came up they turned out to be pumpkins, and a dead loss was the consequence. When he bought his farm he found one egg in every hen's nest on the place. He said that here was just the reason so many farmers failed; they scattered their forces too much. Concentration was the idea. So he gathered those eggs together and put them all under one experienced old hen. That hen roosted over that contract night and day for eleven weeks, under the anxious personal supervision of Mr. Beecher himself, but she could not "phase" those eggs. Why? Because they were those infamous porcelain things which are used by ingenious and fraudulent farmers as "nest eggs." After this, it is not surprising to be told that "Mr. Beecher's farm is not a triumph." "It would be easier on him," observes this veracious chronicler, 'if he worked it on shares with some one; but he cannot find anybody who is willing to stand half the expense, and not many that are able."

STAINED GLASS. — The Royal establishment of Mayer and Co., of Munich, whose London show-rooms are at 149, New Bond-street, submit, free of charge, designs for any windows in contemplation. Their works are executed in accordance with the style of architecture, in very best and richest pot-metal glass, or, if desired, with enamel and perspective drawings like in the windows of the Cathedrals of London, Glasgow, Cologne, and others.

BIRTHS.

April 28, the wife of the Rev. C. S. TURNER, Beech-hill Vicarage, Reading of a son.

April 28, at Brighton, the wife of Commander HORATIO F. KEMBLE, R.N., of a daughter.

April 29, the wife of the Rev. FRANCIS F. WALROND, Rusthall Vicarage, Tunbridge-Wells, of a daughter.

April 30, at 55, Manchester-street, W., the Viscountess LEWISHAM, of a son.

May 1, at Haydon-hill, Bushy, Herts, the wife of R. PERCY ATTENBOROUGH, of a son.

May 1, at Aldershot, the wife of Colonel Sir HOWARD ELPHINSTONE, Royal Engineers, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On St. Mark's Day, at the Cathedral Church, Chester, the Rev. HORACE STEPHENS, M.A., Minor Canon of Chester Cathedral and Master of the Chorister Boarders, to ANNIE AUSTIN ROSE, widow of the late William Baillie Rose, of Ross-shire, and fourth daughter of the late Hugh Massy, Esq., of St. James's-square, Bath.

April 19, at St. Mary's Church, Long Stratton, EDWARD J. FELLOWES, eldest son of Robert Fellowes, of Shotesham Park, to CHARLOTTE MAUD, fourth daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel SEWELL, Manor House, Long Stratton.

April 26, at St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, ERNEST GAMBIER-PARRY (late Royal Welsh Fusiliers), third son of T. Gambier-Parry, Esq., of Highnam Court, Gloucester, to EVELYN ELIZABETH, youngest daughter of Lord HALDON, of Haldon House, Exeter.

April 26, at the Chapel Royal, Savoy, REGINALD ERNEST, youngest son of the late Col. HENRY SALWEY, of Runnymede Park, Egham, to CHARLOTTE MARIA, widow of W. P. WESTON, Esq., and fourth daughter of Samuel Birch, Esq., LL.D., D.C.L., of the British Museum.

April 26, at St. Paul's Church, Burton-on-Trent, ARTHUR WRIGLEY, eldest son of CLEMENT W. H. COZENS-HARDY, of Cley Hall, East Dereham, Norfolk, to MARY, only daughter of SYDNEY EVERSHED, of Albury House, Burton-on-Trent.

April 27, at St. Philip's, Dalston, ALFRED HUGHES TWINING, M.R.C.S., Salcombe, South Devon, fifth son of Edward Twining, Esq., M.R.C.S., The Chesnuts, Walthamstow, to GEORGIANA EDITH, third daughter of the late J. B. HOUNSHAM, Esq., of Ipswich.

April 27, at Holy Trinity, Paddington, Rev. GERALD HENRY JACKSON, B.A., Vicar of Tytherington, to EMILY DORA, second daughter of the late WILLIAM COLLUM (Indian Army), Assay Master of the Mint, Bombay.

April 27, at St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands, near Liverpool, Rev. CHARLES H. BOUSFIELD, B.A., Vicar of Hordle, Lymington, Hants, to ETHEL, eldest daughter of ALFRED BRIGHT, Esq., of Blundellsands.

April 27, in the Chapel Royal, Savoy, PHILIP F. WALKER, Barrister-at-law, late 75th Regiment, third son of the late Edward Walker, Esq., of Lincoln's-inn, and Chesterfield, Derbyshire, to MARY ALICE BEARE, fourth daughter of the late Major Beare, 46th Regiment, of Devonshire-place, and Kingsgate, Kent.

April 27, at St. Jude's, Southsea, Lieut.-Colonel WILLIAM H. ROWLAND, The Border Regt., son of the late Colonel George Tempest Rowland, Royal Artillery, to ELEANOR ELIZABETH, daughter of the late Vice-Admiral CASTLE, of New Lodge, Lymington.

April 27, at All Saints' Church, Margaret-street, JOHN RIVINGTON, Esq., of Babbacombe, South Devon, to HARRIETT, daughter of FRANCIS RIVINGTON, Esq., of Eastbourne.

April 29, at S. Matthias', Earl's Court, South Kensington, GEORGE ALFRED RUSHTON, of Woodside, Staines, to FLORENCE, youngest daughter of the late Rev. W. J. HALL, Vicar of Tottenham.

April 29, at St. Simon's Church, St. Helier's, Jersey, ALBEMARLE WILLOUGHBY DEWAR, of 93, St. George's-square, South Belgravia, eldest son of the late Captain Dewar, H.M. 87th Regt., of Dole, Hants, to FLORENCE WILHELMINA ROSE, younger daughter of Colonel MATTHEWS, D.L. for the county of Oxford, of The Dean, Hurstbourne Tarrant, Hants.

DEATHS.

March 13, at Dehra Doon, N.W.P. India, Deputy Surgeon-General WILLIAM JAMESON, C.I.E., formerly Superintendent of Botanical Gardens, N.W.P.

April 24, at Barlborough Rectory, EMMA HERBERT STAPYLTON, Lady Superior of St. Anne's Home, Bridlington Quay.

April 29, at Cannes, the Hon. HENRY GRAVES, aged 63 years.

April 30, at Tenby, JANE, widow of GEORGE OVERTON, Esq., of York, and daughter of the late Rev. Hy. R. Whytehead, Rector of Gozhill and Curate of Thormanby, Yorkshire.

April 30, at Tavistock House, Fulham-road, of congestion of the lungs, Lady ALEXINA COVENTRY, wife of Aubrey Coventry, Esq., and third daughter of the late Earl of Fife, aged 31.

April 30, at Fingask Castle, SIR PATRICK MURRAY THREIPLAND, of Fingask, Bart.

May 2, at Madeira, HENRY ALFRED HAMILTON LIGHTON, M.R.C.S., of 138, Cromwell-road, South Kensington, third son of the late Rev. Sir Christopher Robert Lighton, Bart., of Ellastone, Staffordshire, and Brockhampton, Herefordshire, in his 31st year.

May 2, at Highgate, EMMA, the wife of the Rev. J. P. CLARKE, M.A., Minor Canon and Precentor of Gloucester Cathedral, and youngest daughter of the late George Hannam, Esq., J.P., of Bromstone House, Isle of Thanet, aged 65 years.

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THE "LANCET," Vol. 2, xvii., contained, from the pen of Dr. GOLDING BIRD, A.M., F.R.S., F.L.S., an article on Pulvermacher's Galvanic Chains, of which the following is an extract:—"The ingenious Galvanic "Chain of Dr. Pulvermacher has attracted "so much attention that an account of its "value may prove interesting. Shocks are "not required to develope physiological "phenomena or therapeutical effects, as the "laborious researches of Dr. Marshall Hall "have long since proved; and it is only to "the mild continuous voltaic currents that "we can look for a vast development of "therapeutical influence."

THE "MATERIA MEDICA," 4th Ed., page 53, by Dr. I. PEREIRA, F.R.S., F.L.S., contains the following extract:—"The "application of the voltaic circuit has "been largely prescribed, and has become "a popular remedy in the form of Pulver-"macher's Galvanic Chains. They should "be worn so as to encircle the part affected, "in cases of Rheumatism, Paralysis, &c. "They are regarded by practitioners as a "valuable and convenient means of applying "the continuous voltaic current."

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LATEST NEWS.

St. Petersburg, May 5.

At the instance of Baron de Giers, the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, several changes in the representation of Russia at the European Courts will soon be made. It is probable that Prince Orloff will leave Paris and go to London, while it is stated that Baron de Mohrenheim, the Minister at the Court of Copenhagen, will retire from active service on account of ill-health, and be replaced by a Finland nobleman high in Imperial favour. Baron de Mohrenheim was thirty years ago regarded as one of the most eminent of the Russian Diplomatic Corps; but he had the misfortune to make a personal enemy of Prince Gortschakoff by having in private ridiculed the celebrated expression, "La Russie ne boude pas, elle se recueille," in the famous circular after the Crimean war, and was from that time kept in the background.

Paris, May 5.

The Empress Eugénie is still staying at the Duc de Mouchy's residence here. M. Rouher visited her yesterday morning, as did also the Duc de Bassano, the Vicomtesse Aguado, and other friends. The Empress is much better, and will leave Paris to-night for Ems.

New York, May 4.

Intelligence received here states that the loss on the Mexican side in the engagement with Indians on Tuesday last amounted to twenty-seven killed and wounded.

This last fight is regarded as the deathblow to the outbreak.

Altogether 141 white and Mexicans have been killed by Indians during the past fortnight.

Les Mondes, in a paper "On the Illumination of Conservatories by the Electric Light," states that the naked rays were found to be injurious to the plants, but the light having passed through glass globes did not appear to affect them. Nocturnal illumination is not fatal to plants, but there is no proof that it is beneficial. Upon the whole, M. l'Abbé Moigno says, the results obtained at the Palace of Industry were not favourable.

In response to the invitation of Sir Stafford Northcote, a meeting of Conservative members of the House of Commons was held at noon yesterday (Friday) at the Carlton Club, the object being to discuss with the leader of the Opposition the present political situation and the state of public business. Sir Stafford Northcote, together with Mr. W. H. Smith and Mr. Cross, were at the club at an early hour. Other members began to arrive at about a quarter to twelve, amongst them being Mr. J. G. Hubbard, Mr. Hubbard, jun., Sir Robert Carden, Mr. Alderman Fowler, Mr. Alderman Cotton, Colonel Taylor, Mr. Stanhope, Sir J. D. Hay, Colonel Stanley, Sir H. Fletcher, Earl Percy, Sir W. H. Dyke, Baron Henry De Worms, Mr. Ritchie, Sir Thomas Bateson, Lord John Manners, Sir Daniel Gooch, Mr. Edward Clarke, Mr. Mowbray, Sir Walter Barttelot, Lord Algernon Percy, Mr. J. Lowther, Mr. Laing, Mr. Plunket, Sir H. Peek, Sir R. Loyd-Lindsay, Sir Trevor Lawrence, Mr. Chaplin, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Mr. Sclater-Booth, Sir H. D. Wolff, Lord C. J. Hamilton, Mr. W. Long, Sir James M'Garel-Hogg, &c. Altogether over a hundred members of the House of Commons were present. The meeting, which was of a most unanimous character throughout, lasted until half-past one. Sir Stafford Northcote occupied the chair, and opened the proceedings with a speech in which he reviewed the situation under the changed aspect it had assumed since the gathering was first summoned. The right hon. gentleman was followed by Sir Walter Barttelot, Mr. Raikes, Mr. Hubbard, Mr. Mowbray, and others, Sir Stafford again speaking before the close of the meeting.

We are in a position to affirm most positively, in spite of the solemn and indignant denials put forth by both the parties concerned, that the Prime Minister has entered into a secret compact with the leaders of the Irish Land League. It has been conjectured in some quarters that the negotiations which led to this arrangement date from the debate on Mr. Redmond's motion last week. This supposition, we are able to state, is wholly erroneous. It is within our certain knowledge that the agreement was already completed at least a fortnight ago. When Mr. Parnell was released on *parole* his real object was, we are informed, to consult Messrs. Egan, Healy, and Sexton—the Executive of the Land League—as to the terms of the compact to be entered into with the Government.

We have the best reason for believing that the statements which have appeared in some of our contemporaries, as to the probability of Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice accepting office in the present Administration, are wholly baseless.

We are able to confirm the statement that Lord Selborne placed his resignation in the hands of the Premier, but was afterwards induced to withdraw it. In the event of his Lordship's retirement—which, as we deeply regret to learn, is by no means improbable—through ill-health, we hear that Sir William Harcourt will spare no effort to succeed him on the Woolsack.

We hear that Lord Kimberley's offer to resign the Colonial Office was prompted by a desire to create a vacancy in favour of Mr. Forster.

We understand that the annual dinner of the Oxford Canning and Chatham Clubs, at which Lord Cairns will be the principal guest, will be held on Tuesday, June 6.

The Bishop of Lincoln intends to move a resolution in the House of Lords, on Friday, May 12, praying Her Majesty to withhold her assent from the Statutes of Lincoln College, of which the Bishop is Visitor, and which was founded and endowed by two of his Lordship's predecessors in the See of Lincoln.

SOCIETY.

The marriage of the Rev. Richard Arnold Pelly, of Trinity Church, Tunbridge Wells, second son of Captain Richard Wilson Pelly, R.N., with Margaret Jane, fourth daughter of Mr. Thomas Fowell Buxton, of Easneye Park, Hertfordshire, was celebrated at the new church of St. Andrew, Stanstead Abbots, on Wednesday in last week. There was a crowded edifice, which had been decorated for the occasion. The Bishop of St. Albans officiated, assisted by the Rev. Canon Hoare, of Tunbridge Wells, and the Rev. J. P. Hobson, vicar of Stanstead Abbots. The bride wore a dress of ivory corded silk, trimmed with Brussels point lace, a veil of Brussels lace, and a wreath of real orange blossom. There were seven bridesmaids, who were attired in pale blue satinette dresses, with white hats, and carried bouquets of primroses and lilies of the valley. They were attended by six little groomsmen, ranging in age from six to two years, dressed in brown velvet knickerbocker suits. The service was full choral, and an address was delivered by the Bishop. At the wedding breakfast at Easneye there was a large and fashionable company. The wedding presents, which numbered more than a hundred and fifty, were greatly admired. In the afternoon the newly-married couple left for the West of England.

A pretty wedding took place at Hove parish church on the 19th ult., between the Rev. Arthur Pridgeon (curate of the parish church, Eastbourne), only son of the late Mr. Robert Pridgeon, of Stea-ford, and Jesse Sarah, third daughter of Mr. George Thomas Congreve, of Stretton, Third Avenue, West Brighton. The bride's dress was very elegant, the pointed bodice and paniers being of pearl-white watered silk, the skirt and long train of the same coloured satin; her wreath was tulle, with sprays of white flowers in the hair, and a bunch of similar flowers falling from the panier on the train. The bridesmaids, of whom there were five, wore white muslin skirts trimmed with cream-coloured lace, and over them pointed bodices of cream-coloured watered silk, and Cherry Ripe caps. They each carried a beautiful bouquet, as did the bride.

The marriage of Mr. Arthur Nicolson, Second Secretary of the Embassy at Constantinople, with Miss Hamilton, sister of the Countess of Dufferin, was celebrated at Pera on the 20th ult., in the Embassy Chapel. The bridal procession was formed in the Embassy, and Miss Hamilton, on the arm of Lord Dufferin, preceded by ten bridesmaids, and followed by Lady Dufferin and the other members of the family and Embassy, walked through the grounds to the chapel. The bride wore white satin, trimmed with lace; Brussels lace veil, diamond stars (the wedding gift of the Earl and Countess of Dufferin), and real orange blossom. The ten bridesmaids were Miss De Novikow, daughter of the Russian Ambassador; Miss d'Ehrenhoff, daughter of the Swedish Minister; Miss De Rascon and Miss R. De Rascon, daughters of the Spanish Minister; Miss Coundourottis, daughter of the Greek Minister; Chifa Khanoum, daughter of the Persian Ambassador; the Ladies Helen, Hermione, and Victoria Blackwood, and Miss Wyndham. They wore dresses of cream-coloured Broussa silk, with wreaths of forget-me-nots, and tulle veil. It is probably the first English marriage in which a Persian lady has taken part as bridesmaid. The service was a full choral one. The bride was given away by the Earl of Dufferin, and Mr. F. Maitland Sartoris was groomsman. After the service Lady Dufferin entertained a large party in the Embassy. The wedding presents were displayed in the ballroom; amongst them were a diamond bracelet, the gift of the Sultan, and a diamond and ruby suite, the gift of Marshal Fuad Pasha. About five o'clock the newly-married pair drove off to Therapia, to pass the first days of their honeymoon. Mr. Arthur Nicolson is the second son of Sir Frederick William Erskine Nicolson, C.B.

The marriage of Mr. Hugh Vaughan Pears, son of the late Dr. Pears, D.D., head master of Repton, with Miss Charlotte Sophia Paull, second daughter of Mr. T. R. Paull, of Rosvigo, Truro, Cornwall, was solemnised at Kenwyn Church, Truro, on the 19th ult. The eight bridesmaids wore heliotrope duchesse satin, with bodices of petunia velvet; hats of Spanish lace, trimmed with pansies; bouquets lilies of the valley, and pansies to match. Each bridesmaid wore a silver necklet of delicate Danish workmanship, in ivy leaves, the gift of the bridegroom. The bride wore a pearl white duchesse satin brocade, tastefully trimmed with lace and real orange blossoms, and pearl ornaments. The bouquet was composed of white azaleas, Maréchal Niel roses, and maidenhair ferns, &c. The best man was Mr. Mytton Thornycroft, of Thornycroft Hall, Cheshire, and Mr. J. P. Paull gave the bride away. The service was choral throughout. A party of about forty guests assembled at Rosvigo for the wedding breakfast, at which, owing to illness in the family, only friends and relatives of the bride and bridegroom were present. The bride and bridegroom left *en route* for the Isle of Wight. The bride's travelling costume was dark peacock blue silk, richly trimmed with brocaded velvet, hat to match. The wedding presents were unusually numerous and valuable.

On the 27th ult., at Cardington Church, Bedfordshire, the marriage of Mr. Arthur Knox Lindsell, second son of Lieutenant-Colonel Lindsell, of Fairfield, Biggleswade, to Ethel Gwen Charlotte, second daughter of the late A. Mellor, Esq., H.E.I.C.C.S., of Cardington, was celebrated. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. A. Kirke Smith (brother-in-law of the bridegroom), assisted by the Rev. E. Garnier and the Rev. E. J. Hillier, vicar of the parish. The bride was given away by Captain Mellor, of the King's Regiment, and was attended by eight bridesmaids. Her dress was of ivory satin, trimmed with Brussels lace; she wore a wreath and long tulle veil, and carried a white bouquet. The bridesmaids wore cream nun's cloth, much trimmed with cream lace, and old-gold coloured moire sash and bows, with pointed bodices, and straw hats, trimmed with lace and old-gold feathers to match. Each carried a bouquet of Maréchal Niel roses and white flowers, and wore a diamond buckle (the gift of the bridegroom) on the left shoulder. Mr. Henry Lindsell, the bridegroom's eldest brother, acted as best man. Early in the afternoon the bride and bridegroom left for Folkestone, *en route* to the Italian lakes. The bride's travelling dress was of sapphire-blue, with hat and feathers to match.

The marriage of Mr. Roger Bass, only son of Major Bass, of Moat Bank, Burton-on-Trent, and nephew of Mr. M. T. Bass, M.P., and Miss Thomasina S. S. Green, daughter of the Rev. E. Dyer Green, Rector of Bromborough, Cheshire, took place on the 27th ult. at Bromborough parish church. The bride's dress was of white satin, with petticoat and paniers of broché to match, and a wreath of natural orange blossoms and tulle veil, with flowers of the same arranged on bodice. She carried a bouquet, and wore gold and pearl bracelets, the gift of the bridegroom. The four bridesmaids wore cream satin broché and nun's cloth, with Reubens hats of lace, trimmed with roses and edged with pearls. Each carried a bouquet, and wore a gold bangle bracelet with pearls, the gifts of the bridegroom. The bride's mother wore ruby satin, trimmed with lace. The path from the church was covered with flowers by the school children. The wedding guests were entertained at the rectory by the Rector and Mrs. Dyer Green, after which the bride and bridegroom left for town, *en route* for the Continent. The bride's travelling dress was green merveilleux, with hat to match.

Mrs. H. Wylde, wife of Dr. Wylde, of St. George's Hall, gave a brilliant fancy dress ball on Wednesday night, at her residence in Queen's Mansions, Victoria-street. The guests, upwards of 300, began to arrive between nine and ten o'clock. The rooms thrown open were beautifully adorned with flowers. The feature of the evening was the costume quadrille, representing the twelve months of the year, and formed by twelve ladies and twelve gentlemen, who walked in procession through the corridor to the ball-room at half-past twelve o'clock, two pages, Master Harry Wylde and Master Kemmis Betty, in very handsome costumes, heralding their approach. A poem by Mrs. H. Wylde describing the quadrille was then read. January was represented by Miss Wylde as a snowdrop. She wore a dress of white satin shaped as a flower, and trimmed with tulle and snowdrops, the leaves being formed of green satin; one large snowdrop formed a cap on her head, and her bracelets, earrings, and fan were of the same flower. Her partner was Mr. H. Neville, as a Russian skater, in red and black, with fur cap. February was represented by Miss Casper, in an exceedingly pretty French Carnival costume, one half white and the other half harlequinade, and nearly covered with bells; her partner being Mr. Rutland Barrington as St. Valentine, in an æsthetic costume ornamented with love birds. March was personated by Mrs. Gerald Moran, in a dress of primroses and violets; her partner being Mr. Frederick Cowen, the composer, as Boreas, with a weather vane on his head. April, by Miss Duff, represented an April Shower, and was composed of pale blue tulle, covered with crystal drops, grey tulle round the head and shoulders, forming clouds, and several rainbows were placed here and there over the dress; her partner was Mr. L. Cowen as an April Fool. Miss Howard, daughter of Hon. Mrs. Howard, was a Queen of the May, her dress being of flowered brocade trimmed with may. The dress for the Month of Roses (June), by Miss Russell Davies, was of rose-coloured and white satin, trimmed with roses in every shade; she had for her partner a Busy Bee. July is represented by a butterfly, Miss Cowen. The dress was white, with wings, and different coloured butterflies were arranged all over it. Her partner was a Cricketer. The hostess, Mrs. H. Wylde, simulated Harvest. Her train, flowing loosely from the shoulders, was of gold brocade, lined with blue satin, and the dress, of cream and blue satin, was profusely trimmed with golden wheat, poppies, and cornflowers; on her head, intermixed with a wreath of the same flowers, was a gold scythe, scythes being also placed on her shoulders, flowers and gloves; a fan of the same flowers as those on her dress completed a very effective toilet. Her partner was a Reaper. September, by Miss Duke, represented Vintage in a white satin dress, handsomely trimmed with vine leaves and purple and white grapes; her partner being Robin Hood. October, by Mrs. Kemmis Betty, was an elegant dress of cream and gold satin, trimmed with acorns and autumnal leaves; her partner was a Huntsman. November was represented by Miss Riding, who was enveloped in clouds of grey tarlatan, as a November Fog; Mr. Tom Thorne, as Guy Fawkes, was her partner. December, by Mrs. Lambton Young, was a most effective dress of pale grey satin, trimmed with swansdown and icicles, representing Snow and Ice; she was accompanied by Father Christmas in a crimson robe, edged with white fur, and trimmed with holly; a wreath of holly surmounting his long white hair. New music was written for the quadrille by Signor Raimo. Among the principal dresses worn by the guests on the occasion were the following:—Mrs. Morell Mackenzie wore the magnificent dress of an Assyrian Queen, her son personating an Assyrian monarch; Mrs. Passmore Edwards (wife of the member for Salisbury) was Mary Queen of Scots, in a white satin petticoat studded with pears, and black velvet train flowing from the shoulders; black velvet headdress edged with pearls, and white tulle veil. A beautiful Turkish dress was of crimson satin, the sleeves and trousers being of gold gauze, the crimson cap, which had a large gold tassel, and the bodice were edged with sequins and large pearls; crimson shoes spangled with gold, and pearl and gold ornaments. Lady Teazle wore a white-flowered satin dress, and powdered hair, with a dainty pink pouf in it. Olivette, personated by Lady Duke, was in cloth of gold, trimmed with gold lace; the front of the skirt was of pink coral silk, and the large collar was lined with black velvet, and edged with gold beads; her headdress and necklace were of gold filigree. Galatea was in white cashmere and gold braid; she wore an amethyst necklace, and carried a peacock fan. A pretty Russian peasant dress was in red and blue satin. A sumptuous supper was served at one o'clock, after which dancing was resumed and kept up till four o'clock on Thursday morning.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Commons Sir M. H. Beach, rising shortly before five, in a crowded House, was received with loud Opposition cheers. He said: I beg to give notice that on Monday next I propose to move the following resolution:—

That, having regard to the critical condition of Ireland, and to the recent statements of Ministers of the Crown, this House is of opinion that it is of paramount importance to the best interests of the country that the whole Irish policy of Her Majesty's Government should be forthwith submitted to the consideration of Parliament. (Renewed Opposition cheers.) I wish also to ask the Prime Minister whether he will afford me the necessary facilities for bringing on that resolution. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Gladstone: I perfectly understand the scope of the motion of which notice has been given by the right hon gentleman, and in perfect consistency, I think, with what I have said as to the absolute necessity of carrying forward the question of procedure. I admit the question of procedure cannot be carried forward without the Government, and therefore I say to the right hon. gentleman that the first day at my disposal—namely, Monday next—shall be placed at his disposal. (Cheers.) Further, Sir, I have to say that my noble friend the Secretary of State for India mentioned last night, or I mentioned on behalf of the Government—I forget which—that we would to-night move some order for Tuesday, at two o'clock. With regard to the notice of the right hon. gentleman, I hope that in the present state of public business it will not be thought impertinent if I express, very respectfully, my desire that it should not be discussed on the same scale of amplitude relative to the importance of the subject on which some comparatively very small matters have been recently discussed. This is a great matter. I can hardly anticipate that it will close on Monday, but should it not close on Monday night, provided we can make arrangements for placing Tuesday also at the disposal of the right hon. gentleman, we should do our best for that purpose. (Cheers.) I shall, consequently, propose no arrangement to-night for Tuesday. (Hear, hear.) Although the issue raised by the right hon. gentleman is of extreme importance, I hope I am not over-sanguine in expressing the desire that no further demand need be made on the time of the House for arriving at a conclusion. Captain Aylmer asked if the Chief Inspector of the Royal Irish Constabulary had been called on to retire. Mr. Johnson: I am not aware of it.

THE LIBERAL WATCHWORD.

If tenants neither pay nor flit,
And landlords may not bid them quit,
What does it matter? not a bit—
Surrender!

The State-ship flounders in the storm,
Our crew are stricken with alarm,
Pitch Jonah over—where's the harm?
Surrender!

Kilmainham birds let us release,
Perchance our troubles then may cease,
And we may yet live on in peace—
Surrender!

Our Foreign policy let's try,
There surely seems no reason why
We should reverse our battle-cry,
Surrender!

—*Globe.* C. B. S.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

A prize of £3 3s. in money will be given at the end of each quarter to the solver of the greatest number of our Double Acrostics during the thirteen weeks. Solutions must reach the office not later than the Monday week following the date of publication, and must be signed with a distinct pseudonym, of not inordinate length. Ties will be guessed off the following quarter. Solutions must be addressed Acrostic Editor, *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street. Alternatives allowed to the number of three: anyone sending more to a single light will not be credited. In the case of a quotation, the word intended by the author must be given, even if others should answer the sense of the light.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 9.

(Twenty-fifth Quarter.)

1. M arro W
2. E pigon I
3. N apoleo N
4. T roa D
5. O xu S
6. N em O
7. E sthe R

Note.—Light 1: Addison; Light 3: Cowper; Light 6: Jules Verne's *Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea*.

Correct solutions have been received from Alga, Arab, Bruce, Beata, Cousins, Cymro, Cipher, Culverin, Dinah, Dumforelle, Florence, Hampton Courtier, Hero, Iris, Jib, Jumbo, Katydid, Lathyra, Lance, M. A. E. B., Mac, Mere Hasard, Noremac, Peewit, Persevere, Roslyn, Roma, Sparks, Spero, St. Michael's, Two Countesses, Wylmcote, X., Zanga, Zulus, and Zenobia.—36 correct, 24 incorrect; total, 60.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 12.

(Twenty-fifth Quarter.)

In a Town and Deanery, on a river of letters three,
There stands a grand old Church, an ancient Priory';
My second there, in memory of my first is seen,
Who bravely died for country and for Queen.

1.
This is a quiet country home,
Where noble people love to come
To seek for rest and calm retreat,
From London's dust, and noise, and heat.

2.
Sir John was good, a martyr he,
First from the midst of the nobility.

3.
In a few weeks' time, I trow,
In town and park 'twill make a show.

4.
How many souls that were on this
Have ta'en their way to woe or bliss!

5.
A river am I, through Bavaria I flow,
I join a greater river many miles below.

6.
From Manilla I'm imported to this nation,
A concrete, fragment, resinous exudation.

7.
He was noted for his scenes of savage nature,
Awe-creating magnificence, and gloomy grandeur.

8.
"Our life's star
Hath had elsewhere its setting,
And cometh from afar."

CYMRO.

Printed and Published by Thomas Dixon, at the Office, No. 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street.—Saturday, May 6, 1882.